THE Valley INDEPENDENT

An edition of the TRIBUNE-REVIEW

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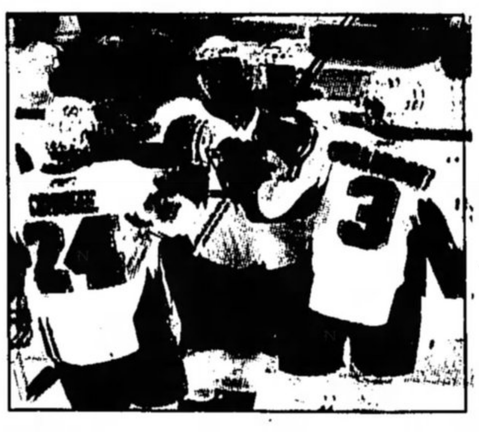
Pens win



Tyler Kennedy scored twice as the Penguins beat the Senators. **1B**

Valley Health

Day Care is the next frontier in the childhood obesity fight. **8A**

INSIDE TODAY

American Profile

Enjoy hearty soup in cold weather? Read American Profile, inside today.

Action planned

The pivotal Senate Finance Committee is set to act on health care. **5A**

Valley Profiles

She's a rookie, but Brooke Kulasa rode to victory. **3A**

SPORTS

Steelers super?

The fourth quarter is an adventure for the Steelers, every game a struggle. **1B**

Patch honored

Ringgold High School junior quarterback Dylan Patch is *The Valley Independent* Player of the Week. **1B**

DEATHS

- Adolph "Uncle Abe" Barczuk, 88, of Donora
- Wanda A. Ellison, 78, of Belle Vernon
- Harold E. McCorkle, 82, of Jefferson Hills Borough, formerly of Elizabeth Township
- Catherine Vaccaro, 69, of Rostraver Township
- Shirley Ann Welsh, 79, of Donora

Page 4A

WEATHER

Tonight Patchy frost 38°

Tomorrow Mostly cloudy 52°

Page 2A

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Dear Abby	8B
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Opinion	6A
Sports	1-4B
Television	8B

Three sections, 22 Pages

TOMORROW

Read Valley Business, a regular Wednesday feature of *The Valley Independent.*

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Highmark wants hikes

The increases would affect people who are individually insured.

By RICK STOUFFER
For The Valley Independent
rstouffer@tribweb.com

Highmark Inc. has filed 15 separate rate increase requests with the state Insurance Department on health care products that will impact 70,500 subscribers in western Pennsylvania and increase premiums by nearly $36 million.

The products are for individually insured, lower-income consumers who need insurance, but aren't able to afford policies with more features.

Such products in Pennsylvania only are available through the nonprofit Blue Cross Blue Shield companies, said Highmark spokesman Michael Weinstein.

"We basically are the insurer of last resort for these people, who are under 65 years of age, and who earn too much to be eligible for Medicaid, but can't afford an extensive program that many people have," Weinstein said.

Any premium changes approved by the Insurance Department will go into effect Jan. 1, said spokeswoman Melissa Fox. The rate requests are in the middle of a public comment period, after which the department has up to 45 days to review them.

Statewide, the premium increases will impact 223,000 Highmark subscribers, and are needed because the programs are expensive to operate, Weinstein said.

The average premium

(See HIKES, Page 2A)

Interest issue in wake of impasse

Counties, school districts and social service agencies want the state to ante up.

By MARC LEVY
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG – Some social services providers, counties and school districts that borrowed money to replace state subsidies held up by the 101-day budget impasse said Monday that they want the state to repay the interest.

They said repayment is a matter of basic fairness, and they plan to bring the issue up this week with Gov. Ed Rendell's administration.

Tom Gentzel, executive director of the Pennsylvania School Boards Association, said his organization will make the request after districts receive their overdue money.

"The question of interest on the money that was delayed is a really legitimate question," Gentzel said.

The state Treasury Department on Monday was processing around $3 billion in payments after Rendell signed a key appropriations bill that freed up the money on Friday.

Gentzel and others said they did not know exactly how much money counties, school districts and the private businesses and nonprofits that delivered social services borrowed during the July-October stalemate.

Tony Ross, president of the United Way of Pennsylvania, said he believes social service agencies might have borrowed enough to incur interest of $5 million to $10 million.

"These agencies maintained their commitment to the public without compensation for three months," Ross said. "They didn't say, 'We're not getting paid, we're not going to maintain our commitment to the public and the commonwealth.'"

Rendell said Friday that he had not considered the matter, and when asked said it would depend on whether the state can afford it.

"I'm willing to take a look at it, but we'd have to know what the total was," he said.

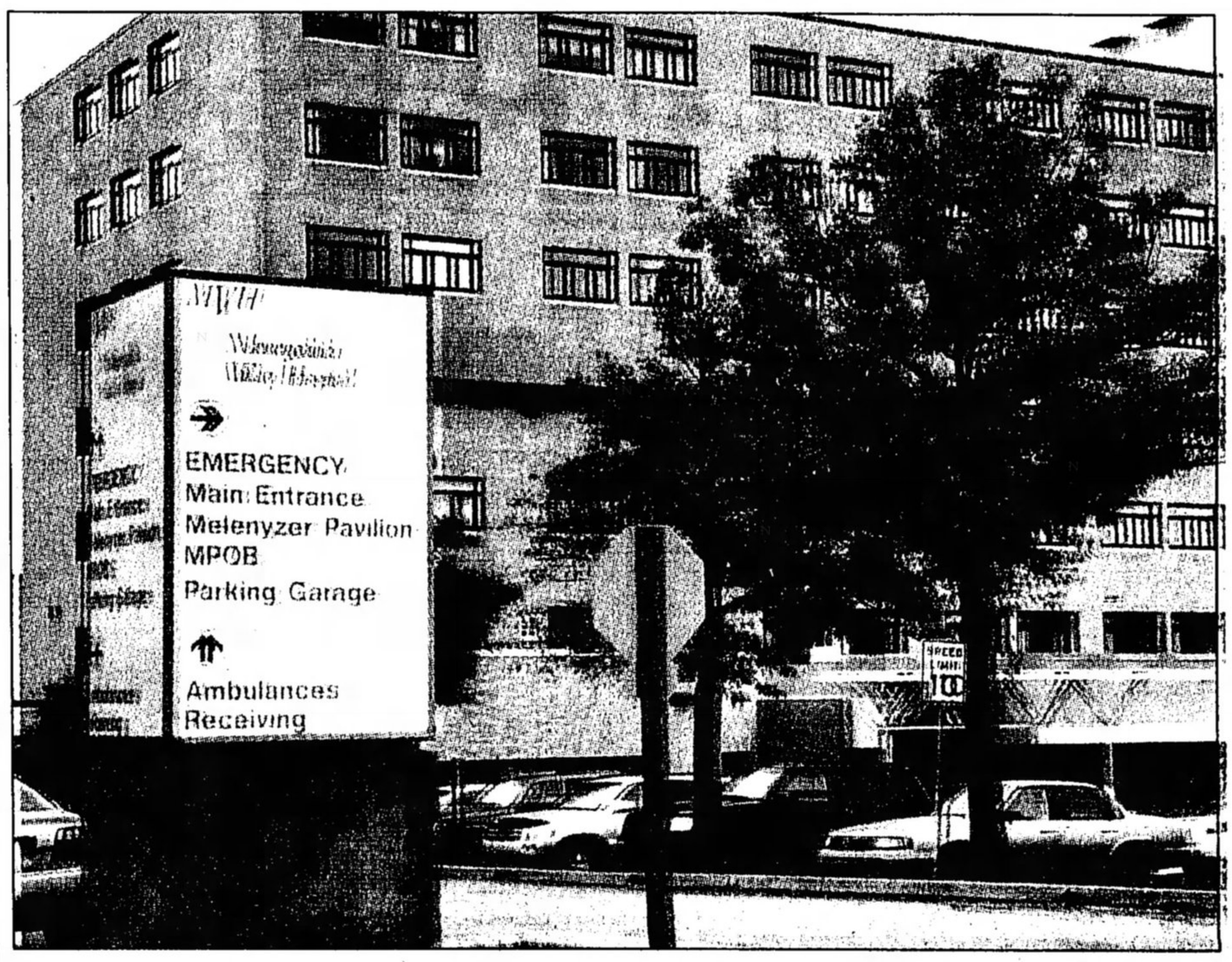
In 2003, Rendell held up money for public school operations and instruction until Dec. 23 – partly in an effort to force lawmakers to authorize more education funding.

When the governor and legislators finally came to an agreement, they also approved $4.6 million to cover interest on money the schools borrowed to keep classrooms open.

In many cases, officials said, the school districts, counties and service agencies that recently had to borrow are ones that can least afford it – generally, poorer and smaller, with lower credit ratings and higher interest rates.

In addition to those that owe interest on loans, others had to dip into reserves and thus lost interest on that money, officials

(See INTEREST, Page 2A)



Jim Ference/The Valley Independent

Monongahela Valley Hospital has received a greater-than-normal number of calls and emergency department visits involving swine flu concerns.

Swine flu concerns rise at Charleroi Area, Frazier

Monongahela Valley Hospital has increased emergency room traffic.

By JEFF OLIVER
Staff Writer
joliver@tribweb.com

Add Charleroi Area and Frazier to the list of Mid-Mon Valley school districts to be hit with swine flu illnesses this year.

Charleroi Area Superintendent Dr. Brad Ferko officials confirmed the district has six confirmed cases of the H1N1 virus – swine flu.

Absenteeism in the middle school has been unusually high the last few days.

On Monday, reportedly 40 percent of the district's middle school students were absent.

Meanwhile, Frazier Superintendent Donald Martin sent letters to parents last week saying the district had one confirmed case of the virus at the middle school. The letter also outlined precautions parents should take with their children.

The discovery in Frazier marked just the second case of confirmed swine flu in a Fayette County school district. Earlier this month, a student in the Connellsville Area School District was found of have the virus.

Ferko said the six confirmed cases are districtwide and not limited to the middle school.

Ferko said the district sent letters at the beginning of the school year about how to deal with swine flu symptons.

He said at this time there is no consideration to send additional letters out to parents.

While identified cases of swine flu have been sporadic in various Mon Valley areas, Monongahela Valley Hospital has been dealing with an increased number of calls from concerned parents about the illness recently. And the hospital's emergency department has been dealing with more children with flu-like symptoms.

Although there had been only four confirmed cases of swine flu before Charleroi Area – one in the Ringgold School District last month and one each recently in the Monessen and Frazier school districts – a hospital spokesman said the facility has been getting frequent calls from parents who are fretting over whether or not their children have contracted the H1N1 virus.

"We've experienced an increase in calls and also in parents bringing their children into the emergency department in the last few days," MVH spokesman Kurt Webber said.

The first two confirmed cases at Ringgold were students in the middle school.

Monessen Elementary

(See SWINE FLU, Page 2A)

Belle Vernon eyes grant for sewer work

Mayor James V. Bitonti applied for the money before he died.

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
jpikulsky@tribweb.com

BELLE VERNON – Council has yet to learn if it will be able to reapply a grant it recently received to a stormwater and wastewater system project.

In November, the late Mayor James V. Bitonti applied for a $50,815 Community Development Block Grant through the Fayette County Redevelopment Authority.

He hoped council would put the money toward a $1.85 million stormwater and wastewater separation project completed earlier this year.

Bitonti died Jan. 30, and council had not heard an update about the redevelopment grant until it received word last month that it had been approved.

Fayette Engineering Inc., the borough's former engineer, did not include a section on Vernon and Columbus streets in the project, according to Council President Michael Frederick.

After the project was completed, council had to have 800 feet of sewer line installed in the section.

On Aug. 29, the board awarded a contract for the work to Elisha Industries Inc., of Belle Vernon, and planned to move ahead with the project using no grant money.

Frederick said Monday that the project is about 35 percent complete. He said it will cost about $56,000.

Mayor Rich Saxberg said he has been working with state Rep. R. Ted Harhai, D-Monessen, to see if the borough can use the grant money for the work.

The grant must be used for work in a low- to moderate-income area.

If it cannot go toward the Vernon and Columbus project, council indicated it will be used for a similar project.

Council agreed to spend up to $400 on Christmas lights.

Council plans to award a three-year refuse hauling contract at its Nov. 9 meeting.

VALLEY PEOPLE

Hikes (FROM PAGE ONE)

increases requested for the products range from less than 1 percent to more than 30 percent per month, or from 39 cents to $136.30 per month, according to data filed with the state.

Highmark attempts to subsidize the premiums to bring down the cost, Weinstein added.

"This year, we've provided $75 million in subsidies statewide to these programs," he said.

Highmark insures more than 3.5 million residents statewide, and 2.5 million in the 29-county western Pennsylvania region.

About 48,000 of the 70,500 area individuals affected by the proposed increases are covered by Medicare supplemental programs, so-called Medigap insurance, Weinstein said.

The remainder, about 22,000 subscribers, are in numerous individual programs that don't require any medical screening or medical questionnaire to be filled out, which can lead to more extensive usage of services and more expensive premiums.

Public hearings for rate increases are held at the discretion of the Insurance Department and are determined on a case-by-case basis, Fox said. She added a public hearing on a rate increase hasn't been held for what she characterized as "quite some time."

"We check three things when we look at rate requests," Fox said. "We make sure the rates aren't excessive, inadequate or unfairly discriminatory."

The Insurance Department can move three ways concerning a rate case: approve the new rate as submitted, reject it totally or approve a new rate with modifications.

According to state law, unless formal action is taken by the state prior to Oct. 29, the filings are approved as is.

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(724) 684-2600 or 1-800-564-9000
8am - 6pm Monday - Friday • Closed Saturday

Circulation.....Linda Hutchison
Delivery.....Scott Sawa or Melissa Stima
Single Copy / NIE.....Lori Byron

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT MONESSEN, PA
USPS NO. 655-720

RATES:
Home Delivery.....$2.95 per week
.....$12.78 per month
Monday - Saturday Valley Independent and Sunday Tribune Review
Single Copy.....50 cents

MAIL RATES:
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6 Months.....$95.00
12 Months.....$180.00

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Yesteryear

Here is the 1951-52 Mount Mercy Ladies City Bowling League, Monessen. Pictured, from left, seated, are Rose Leone, Lucy Robinson and Louise Essey; standing, Adeline Szabo, Rosemary Benyak, Betty Malinchak and Ann Lombardo. Rosemary Benyak Betza submitted the photo.

Weather

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High 52	High 50	High 47	High 46	High 52
Low 34	Low 36	Low 35	Low 35	Low 36

Clinton to press Russia on Iran

The secretary of state issued a warning Sunday to Iran about atomic weapons.

By The Associated Press

MOSCOW – U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton plans to press Russian leaders for "specific forms of pressure" against Iran if the regime fails to comply with international demands to prove its nuclear program is peaceful.

Clinton arrived in Moscow from Belfast on Monday, primed for a heavy schedule of meetings today with Russian President Dmitry Medvedev and Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov on the Iran question, Afghanistan and on a recent Obama administration decision to scale back a Bush-era proposal for an anti-missile shield in Europe.

Also on the agenda are nuclear-armed North Korea, which set off another round of short-range missiles in tests earlier Monday, NATO expansion, the situation in Georgia after its conflict with Russia last year, human rights and arms control.

A senior State Department official traveling with Clinton said she intends to speak to Lavrov and Medvedev about "what specific forms of pressure Russia would be prepared to join us and our allies in if Iran fails to live up to its obligations."

The official said it was critical to get tangible signs of support from Moscow because the more united the international community is the more likely pressure on Iran is to work. The official spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss the pending private diplomatic discussions.

On Sunday, Clinton warned Iran that the world "will not wait indefinitely" for evidence it is not trying to develop atomic weapons.

She said a recent meeting in Geneva in which Iran and six world powers resumed nuclear talks was "a constructive beginning, but it must be followed by action" from the Iranians.

Iran insists it has the right to a full domestic nuclear enrichment program that it maintains is only for peaceful purposes, such as energy production.

It is already under three sets of U.N. sanctions. Russia and China have balked at imposing new penalties on Iran although Medvedev has hinted the Russian position might be shifting after Tehran disclosed a previously secret uranium enrichment site near the holy city of Qom.

But U.S. officials believe it will be a hard sell to convince the Russians on fresh penalties since Iran agreed to allow U.N. inspectors to visit the Qom site and has agreed, in principle, to send most of its low-enriched uranium to Russia for reprocessing.

Iran agreed to allow inspections of the Qom site following the Geneva talks between Iran's chief nuclear negotiator and diplomats from the U.S., Russia, China, Britain, France and Germany.

The Iranians were given time to decide whether to accept a package of incentives in exchange for Iran's compliance with international demands to suspend its uranium enrichment or face new sanctions.

The Obama administration is anxious not to let up on the pressure and Clinton will be looking for Russian expressions of support for sanctions and other penalties should Iran continue to refuse by the end of the year, the officials said.

As Clinton left Washington on Friday for Switzerland, Britain, Ireland and Russia, Medvedev said his government does not want to see any more nations develop nuclear weapons, signaling that Moscow shares U.S. concerns about Iran. But he said nothing about potential sanctions.

Clinton's visit to Moscow is her first since becoming America's top diplomat.

Interest (FROM PAGE ONE)

said.

The state treasury banked the subsidies during the impasse, but state Treasurer Rob McCord said the money was kept in cash accounts that earned almost no interest.

Doug Hill, executive director of the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania, said he plans to raise the issue when he meets with administration officials Thursday to discuss payment schedules for the delayed state subsidies.

However, Erik Arneson, a spokesman for Senate Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi, R-Delaware, said he was not aware the governor's staff had raised the repayment issue in any budget discussions this time around.

"If it was going to be done, it almost certainly would have been done with the package that was done last week," Arneson said.

Jay Himes, the executive director of the Pennsylvania Association of School Business Officials, said his organization would not seek the state repayment of interest, given the state's multibillion-dollar, recession-driven shortfall.

"I sort of think it would be viewed as piling on," Himes said.

Swine flu (FROM PAGE ONE)

Center had a child diagnosed with Type A influenza, which Superintendent Dr. Cindy Chelen said was being treated as swine flu.

And in the Frazier School District, parents were informed last week that a middle school student was suspected of contracting the virus.

"It is still our intention to keep our schools open to students and functioning as normal as possible," wrote Martin in the letter to parents. "We will continue to take steps to control and manage the spread of the swine flu virus here at school and encourage you to do the same at home."

The letter listed flu symptoms and requested that sick children be kept at home for at least 24 hours after they no longer have a fever or sign of a fever without the aid of fever-reducing drugs.

Martin said the district has applied be an H1N1 vaccination site.

"If we are approved, you will receive information on how you may take advantage of this service," the statement said. "Frazier will only provide the site; costs, if any, associated with this vaccine will be the responsibility of the parent. Please note this is a service, not a mandate."

Just as MVH has been getting calls, so has UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

Young patients with flu-like symptoms are choking the emergency department at Children's as more reports emerge that swine flu is targeting younger people more so than seasonal influenza.

"We're setting record numbers," said Dr. Raymond Pitetti, associate director of emergency medicine at Children's. "We're seeing a marked increase in kids coming in with cough, fever and respiratory symptoms."

The hospital reports an increase of about 60 patients a day in its emergency department, where about 180 people a day routinely seek treatment for illnesses and injuries. Most with flu-like symptoms are sent home, Pitetti said.

Parents should treat flu symptoms the way they do every year, seeking medical attention if a child develops trouble breathing or can't keep fluids down, he said.

"There's a fear out there and, from our perspective, what parents are hearing is not what we would tell them," Pitetti said, noting that only about five cases required admission to an intensive care unit.

"I just think they need to do the normal thing and keep an eye on the child. As things get more severe, they need to see their pediatrician."

Although most swine flu cases outside the United States have been relatively mild, those hit the hardest include relatively healthy adolescents and young adults, according to studies published in the Journal of the American Medical Association.

Those people, in Canada and Mexico, deteriorated rapidly after hospitalization and developed severe respiratory failure, in a pattern one researcher compared to the 1918 flu pandemic.

Tribune-Review Staff Writer Luis Fabregas contributed to this report.

Police probing Sunoco robberies

Stations in Charleroi and Finleyville have been robbed in past 3 days.

By CHRIS BUCKLEY
Staff Writer
cbuckley@tribweb.com

Sunoco stations in two Mid-Mon Valley communities have been robbed in the past three days.

Police are investigating to determine whether the early-morning crimes are related.

At 3:39 a.m. Saturday, a suspect wielding a weapon robbed the Sunoco on First Street in Charleroi.

The short and stocky white male was wearing a hooded gray sweat shirt, police were told.

Wielding a knife, he demanded money from the register. After taking an undetermined amount of cash, he fled the scene, but the clerk did not know whether he got into a car because the employee was still behind the counter.

The second crime occurred 2:49 this morning at the Sunoco Mini Mart, located on Washington Ave. in Finleyville

The suspect was described as a thin white male, 5-foot 6-inches to 5-foot 8-inches tall, with a black goatee and brown eyes.

He wore a black zipped hooded sweatshirt, black pants and black shoes.

His clothing looked worn, the clerk told police.

According to Monongahela police, the clerk was outside the store cleaning up when the suspect approached him and asked to purchase an item inside.

When they went inside the store, the suspect brandished a medium-size black semi-automatic pistol.

He pointed the weapon at the clerk's head, demanding the money in the register and threatening to shoot him.

He took the money from register as well as the clerk's wallet containing approximately $50.

Police said the money from register was "substantial."

The suspect told the clerk, "If you call cops, I'll kill you" and then fled on foot.

State police Records and Identification personnel processed the scene for fingerprints.

Seeking exports

Do you know of someone who once lived in the Mon Valley, but moved on to forge a life elsewhere?

Is that person involved in an interesting or successful career?

If so, we would like to hear from you. Your friend could be featured in Valley Exports.

To submit a name, call Joe Abramowitz at (724) 684-2634. You also can email to jabramowitz@tribweb.com.

Jeff Pikulsky/The Valley Independent

Brooke Kulasa, of Rostraver Township, poses with photos of her and Annie, a 14-year-old quarter horse who helped the 14-year-old eighth grader win 34 ribbons in riding and showing competitions during the past summer.

Rostraver Township teenager finds success in horse riding

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
jpikulsky@tribweb.com

Valley profiles
A weekly look at one of our neighbors

Brooke Kulasa may have been green going into her first horse riding and showing competition, but she came away with the gold at a major event.

When the 14-year-old Rostraver Township girl entered a four-month competition at South Park Arena early last summer, she was along for the ride as a learning experience.

But, as the competition went on, Kulasa and her trusty sidekick, Annie, a 14-year-old quarter horse, began piling up points.

Kulasa, who has been riding since she was 6, set her sights on the grand prize - the 2009 Saddle Up Open Show All-Around Grand Champion.

The title is awarded to the rider who accumulates the most points during day-long monthly shows from May through August.

Kulasa entered the competition as one of the youngest riders in the field.

She signed up for the 13 and over male and female age group, which included about 25 experienced riders going for the grand prize.

After solid showings in the first two months, Kulasa took a break with her family and traveled to North Carolina for a week-long vacation.

The rider and her mother, Missy, had to cut the trip short, however, after they learned that Brooke was leading the event by a healthy margin.

The mother and daughter rushed home in time for the third show, and the young rider and her steed cruised to victory.

Brooke Kulasa ended up with 34 ribbons awarded to places one through six in each event.

She competed in timed events that involved maneuvering her horse through obstacles.

She also had to demonstrate different riding styles and control over the horse.

For the win, Kulasa accumulated show points needed to enter into larger shows.

She plans to compete again but, for now, she is simply basking in the limelight.

"I was really nervous," she said. "It was pretty tough at the first show. But then, after a couple of classes, I got used to it."

Kulasa said going into the show as a rookie simply looking to have fun gave her an edge because she felt less pressure.

She emerged more confident and outgoing.

"It just kind of gave me a new view," she said. "I was really shy when I first started, and now I can't stop talking."

Kulasa shows under the guidance of Kelli Mroziak, a trainer at Sun Hill Quarter Horses in New Stanton.

Annie has been a champion before, but Kulasa is sure her relationship with the horse is special.

"She wouldn't walk herself into the show pen. Someone had to walk her. Then, eventually we walked in together," Kulasa recalled of the competition.

"All the previous years, when other girls tried to show her, she wouldn't walk through the gate. Somebody had to lead her in," Missy Kulasa said of Annie.

Annie became available when her former rider moved on to another horse.

Brooke Kulasa said she jumped at the chance to ride the veteran steed.

The youth said she shares a strong bond with Annie, a natural fit she realized when she first rode her.

"She's like the sweetest horse I've ever met," Brooke Kulasa said.

The horse has her moments, though.

Brooke Kulasa said, when she arrived home from vacation shortly before the third show, Annie was a bit testy.

"When I came back and rode her the night before the show, she was mad at me because I hadn't seen her for a week," Kulasa said with a smile. "Then, at the show she did fine."

When Kulasa took over riding Annie, the aging horse hadn't won a title in three years.

Annie suffers from arthritis in her legs.

But the mare turned it on for her young rider when it was time to hit the show floor.

(See PROFILE, Page 7A)

Judge Wagner faces retention

Voters will decide Nov. 3 whether to keep 22-year veteran on Fayette bench.

By LIZ ZEMBA
For The Valley Independent
lzemba@tribweb.com

Fayette County Court of Common Pleas Judge John F. Wagner Jr. will face a retention vote in the Nov. 3 election.

In retention elections, judges are unopposed, allowing voters to decide whether they want to keep them on the bench for another 10 years. Voters will decide yes or no on whether to retain Wagner. The judge has to receive just one more "yes" vote than "no" vote to win another term.

Wagner has 22 years of experience as a judge, having been appointed to the bench in 1987 after Judge Fred C. Adams retired. He was elected to a full 10-year term in 1989 and retained for another in 1999.

Judges must retire at the age of 70, meaning this retention election will be the last for Wagner, 62.

"Everybody hopes they are making a difference in the community and helping make it a better place to live," Wagner said. "Obviously, the resolution of disputes and problems between people is important, and working within the justice system, you hope you are making some difference in everybody's lives."

As he did in his 1999 retention election, Wagner is not soliciting monetary campaign contributions. Citing the "importance of an impartial judiciary," Wagner said he wants to pay his own campaign expenses "to avoid any appearance of impropriety."

Wagner practiced law from 1972-87 in Connellsville. He was an assistant public defender from 1972-76 and an assistant district attorney from 1977-87.

Wagner is married to Christine Cavalier Wagner. They have four children and three grandchildren.

Wagner is one of five Common Pleas judges in Fayette County. He is the only one facing retention, with voters having retained judges Ralph Warman and Gerald R. Solomon in 2007. Judge Steve Leskinen is up for retention in 2010.

One of the five, President Judge Conrad B. Capuzzi, will step down after reaching the mandatory retirement age of 70. Two candidates, District Attorney Nancy Vernon and Uniontown attorney Ernie DeHaas, will battle it out in the November election to replace Capuzzi.

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THE QUIZ

NEWSFACE:

I am the president of Afghanistan, a position I've held since 2004. For years, the U.S. government strongly supported me, but many say that I have little influence over large regions of my country. Now I am even more controversial, after I allegedly won an election that many believe was rigged. Who am I?

1. NASA deliberately smashed a rocket and satellite into the moon's south pole to (CHOOSE ONE: determine if there is ice under its surface, test the velocity of the equipment).
2. Two Americans, Elinor Ostrom and Oliver Williamson, were awarded the Nobel Prize in ..?.. Monday.
3. Alex Rodriguez led the New York Yankees to a win over the ..?.., advancing the team to its first ALCS in five years.
4. A bombing in (CHOOSE ONE: Pakistan, Afghanistan) linked to the Taliban killed 41 people.
5. "This Is It," a posthumous single from ..?.., debuted online.

NEWSPLACE:

Each year, a committee from this small European country decides who will receive the annual Nobel Peace Prize. The Nobel prizes are the legacy of famous chemist Alfred Nobel, the Swedish chemist who invented dynamite. This year the committee caused some controversy by choosing President Obama for the Nobel Peace Prize. Name this country.

6. Armenia and ..?.. recently signed a landmark agreement normalizing relations after a century of hostilities.
__Greece __Turkey __Russia __Italy
7. The ..?.. have filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.
__Chicago White Sox __Boston Red Sox
__Chicago Cubs __Milwaukee Brewers
8. The comedy "Couples Retreat," starring "Swingers" co-stars Jon Favreau and ..?.., topped the weekend box office.
9. U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has said she (CHOOSE ONE: will, will not) run for the presidency again.
10. (CHOOSE ONE: North Korea, Iran) reportedly recently fired five short-range missiles.

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91 to 100 points *TOP SCORE!*
81 to 90 points *Excellent*
71 to 80 points *Good*
61 to 70 points *Fair*

ANSWERS

NEWSFACE: Hamid Karzai *(15 points for correct answer)*
NEWSPLACE: Norway *(10 points for correct answer)*
(5 points for each correct answer)
1-determine if there is ice under its surface; 2-economics; 3-Minnesota Twins; 4-Pakistan; 5-Michael Jackson; 6-Turkey; 7-Chicago Cubs; 8-Vince Vaughn; 9-will not; 10-North Korea

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RECORDS

DEATH NOTICES

BARCZUK — Adolph "Uncle Abe" Barczuk, 88, of Donora, on Monday, Oct. 12. Anthony L Massafra Funeral Home, Donora.*

ELLISON — Wanda A. Ellison, 78, of Belle Vernon, on Sunday, Oct. 11. Ferguson Funeral Home Inc. and Cremation Service, Belle Vernon.*

McCORKLE — Harold E. McCorkle, 82, of Jefferson Hills, formerly of Elizabeth Township, on Sunday, Oct. 11. J. William McCauley Jr. Funeral Home Inc., West Newton.*

VACCARO — Catherine Vaccaro, 69, of Belle Vernon (Rostraver Township), on Saturday, Oct. 10. James C. Stump Funeral Home Inc., Sweeney Plan/Rostraver Township.*

WELSH — Shirley Ann Welsh, 79, of Donora, on Thursday, Oct. 8. Anthony L Massafra Funeral Home, Donora.*

* See death notice

Adolph "Uncle Abe" Barczuk

Donora

Adolph "Uncle Abe" Barczuk, 88, of Donora, died Monday, Oct. 12, 2009, at Mon Valley Care Center in Carroll Township. Son of the late Josef and Teresa (Sirko) Barczuk, he was born Sept. 20, 1921, in Donora. Abe was a member of Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Donora. He received his bachelor of science degree in industrial arts from California University of Pennsylvania and his master of education degree from the University of Pittsburgh. He was a World War II Veteran serving with the Army Air Force, where he was a radioman and later attended flight school. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Alfons; a sister, Helen Danek; and a niece, Janet Danek. Survivors include six nieces and nephews, Dr. John (Debra) Danek, of Craven Hill, Emily (Bernard) Thropp, of Finleyville, Barbara (Charles) Vassar, of Roanoke, Va., Gregory (Eileen) Burke, of Herndon, Va., Joseph (Alice) Burke, of Wexford and James (Mary) Burke, of Venitia, and many great nieces and nephews. Friends will be received 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 13, 2009, in the ANTHONY L. MASSAFRA FUNERAL HOME, 40 Second St. Extension, Donora, PA, 15033, (724) 379-6900, where prayers will be recited 10 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 14, 2009, followed by a 10:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial in St. Philip Neri Church of Our Lady of the Valley Parish in Donora, with Rev. Fr. Joseph Oppong as celebrant. Interment will follow in St. Dominic Cemetery, Donora, Pa.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Wanda A. Ellison

Belle Vernon

Wanda A. Ellison, 78, of Belle Vernon, passed away Oct. 11, 2009, in the Southwestern Nursing Center. A daughter of the late John and Besse Gray, she was born in Connellsville on October 16, 1930. Wanda was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, and great-grandmother and will be deeply missed. Survivors include her husband, Harry C. Ellison, with whom she would have celebrated 55 years of marriage Dec. 4, 2009; one daughter, Dawn Curcio, of Bitner; one son and daughter-in-law, H. Kent and Maureen Ellison, of Belle Vernon; six grandchildren, Casie Lynn Curcio, Kevin Anthony Curcio, H. Clay Ellison, Garrett George Ellison, Seth David Ellison, and Micale Ellison; one great-grandson, Nicholas Curcio; and a brother, Terry Gray, of Fairhope. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her brother, Eugene Gray, and two sisters, Helen Gray and Naomi Jones. A memorial service will be held 11:00 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 15 in the First United Methodist Church of Belle Vernon. The FERGUSON FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY INC., (724-929-5300), 700 Broad Ave., Belle Vernon, www.FergusonFuneralHomeandCrematory.com, is handling arrangements.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Harold E. McCorkle

Jefferson Hills

Formerly of Elizabeth Township

Harold E. McCorkle, 82, of Jefferson Hills Borough, formerly of Elizabeth Township, died Sunday, Oct. 11, 2009, at Jefferson Regional Medical Center. Born on July 17, 1927, in Curtisville, he was son of the late Elmer and Mabel (Olson) McCorkle. Prior to his retirement, he worked for Menzie Dairy. He was a member of Victory Primitive Methodist Church, and a former auxiliary policeman in Elizabeth Township, and a U.S. Navy veteran. He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Vera L. (Gash) McCorkle; four children, Sharon Erickson and husband Ralph of McKeesport, Kerry McCorkle and wife Janice of Charleroi; Lori Dubs and husband Thomas of Jefferson Hills Borough, and Scott McCorkle of Elizabeth; eight grandchildren, Brian Erickson, Jason Erickson, Kevin McCorkle, Tiffany McCorkle, Kerry McCorkle, Jr., Justin Dubs, Taylor Dubs, and Emilie McCorkle; and two great-grandchildren, Cameron and Colton Erickson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Kenneth McCorkle; and two sisters, Shirley McCorkle, and Marlene Novacek. Friends will be received from 3 to 5 and 7 to 9 p.m. Tuesday at the J. WILLIAM McCAULEY JR. FUNERAL HOME NC., 901 Vine St., West Newton, where services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday with Pastor Darrel Evans officiating. Interment will follow in West Newton Cemetery. www.mccauleyfuneralhome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Catherine Vaccaro

Belle Vernon (Rostraver Twp.)

Catherine Vaccaro, 69, of Belle Vernon, (Rostraver Township), died Saturday, Oct. 10, 2009, in her home. Born in Monongahela on Jan. 9, 1940, she was the daughter of the late Phillip Vaccaro and Mary Vaccaro who survives. A private funeral service and interment was held Tuesday in the Monongahela Cemetery. Funeral arrangements were entrusted to the JAMES C. STUMP FUNERAL HOME INC., 580 Circle Drive, Belle Vernon/Rostraver Township (724-929-7934) www.jamesstumpfuneralhome.com

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Shirley Ann Welsh

Donora

Shirley Ann Welsh, 79, of Donora, Pa., died Oct. 8, 2009 at her home with her loving family at her side. She was born Tuesday, May 20, 1930, in North Charleroi, the daughter of Albert H. and Alice E. (Sutherland) Yonkers. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death Jan. 7, 1999, by her husband, Louis John Welsh. Survivivors include three daughters, Renee (Angel) Rodriguez, of Bentleyville, Tina Marie Welsh and Luann M. Welsh, both of Donora, Pa.; a son, William (Carrie) Welsh, of Belle Vernon; a brother, Albert Wylie (Elaine) Yonkers, of Eldora;10 grandchildren, Cory, Brooke (Dan), Taylor, Halie, John, Rosalyn, Alec, Stephanie, Hannah, and Louis; and three great grandchildren, Coltyn, Blake and Vanessa. Private funeral services and interment were held at the convenience of the family. ANTHONY L. MASSAFRA FUNERAL HOME, 40 Second St. Extension, Donora, PA, 15033, (724) 379-6900, entrusted with the arrangements.

Family and friends are invited to sign the online guest book at www.valleyindependent.com.

Sestak seeking repeal of 'don't ask, don't tell'

Former Navy admiral says policy amounts to discrimination.

By CHRIS RAMIREZ
For The Valley Independent
cramirez@tribweb.com

U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, the highest-ranking former military officer serving in Congress, says he supports repealing the military's "don't ask, don't tell" provision, calling it "discrimination policy."

On Sunday in Philadelphia, the Delaware County Democrat and Senate hopeful helped collect hundreds of signatures for a petition that urges an end to the 15-year-old policy.

The effort coincided with National Coming Out Day, the world's largest gay pride celebration.

"How can I or anyone say that these individuals don't deserve equal rights?" said Sestak, a retired Navy rear admiral. "No one who serves in defense of liberty should be forced to live a lie."

In Washington, gay rights advocates marked the 30th anniversary of a National Equality March. They are seeking a bill to outlaw job discrimination based on gender, a law that would treat attacks on gays as federal hate crimes, and a presidential order allowing gays to serve openly in the military.

Rep. Joe Sestak

President Obama promised during last year's campaign to work toward achieving their goals but has drawn criticism since taking office for not moving fast enough. Obama renewed his pledge to end the policy in a speech on the eve of the march.

The rules governing the military service of gays, put in place during the early days of the Clinton administration, could become an emotionally-charged battle.

The military has discharged about 13,500 members since the rule took effect in 1994, according to the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, a Washington organization that seeks to end discrimination against gay and lesbian military personnel. Four hundred of them were discharged in 2009.

A poll in May by Muhlenberg College Institute of Public Opinion in Allentown found that four in 10 Pennsylvanians support repealing the policy, about the same number of people opposing the idea.

A member of the House Armed Services Committee, Sestak said the struggle for equality by gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Americans is "the civil rights test of our generation."

Recent polls show Sestak trailing by double digits in his quest to unseat Sen. Arlen Specter in the May 2010 Democratic primary.

Specter, a senior member of the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on defense, favors repealing the military's policy, said his spokeswoman, Kate Kelly.

"The standard of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' should no longer be applied," Specter said in a statement. "There ought not to be any discrimination on this issue when our fighting men and women are performing such a valiant service to the nation."

Rostraver Middle School student suspended for gun in backpack

Thirteen-year-old male also faces criminal misdemeanor charge.

By JEFF PIKULSKY
Staff Writer
jpikulsky@tribweb.com

WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP - A Rostraver Middle School student has been charged with having a pellet gun in school.

Rostraver Township Police Chief Greg Resetar said police were called to the school at 8:05 a.m. Monday after a report that a 13-year-old male brought an Airsoft pellet gun into school in his backpack.

The school has metal detectors at its doors.

Resetar said the metal weapon could have been mistaken for a firearm.

"If you looked at this gun in comparison with a legitimate firearm that fired bullets, you really couldn't tell the difference," Resetar said.

The child was in class when police arrived at the school, Resetar said.

School principal Dr. J. K. Folmar Jr. retrieved the backpack and turned it over to police, according to the chief.

A juvenile petition for possession of a weapon on school property was filed against the student, Resetar said.

The charge is a misdemeanor.

Resetar said the teenager made no threats.

Superintendent Stephen V. Russell said it appears that the student brought the gun to school by mistake.

"We don't see any maliciousness here," he said. "There's nothing to indicate that he brought it to harm anybody. He brought it by mistake. He had stayed at somebody's house over the weekend and he had been using it."

Russell said students' items are searched only after the metal detector goes off.

"I'm not sure whether or not it went off, but I know that the information came to light that this kid had this thing, so that was found to be true," he said.

Russell said the student has been suspended.

"Even though it was a mistake, we still have to go by our procedure," he said.

"You can't bring those things to the school no matter what the intent was."

Russell said the metal detector, which will be inspected, has been at the school for about five years without incident.

"We're going to be a vigilant as we can be," Russell said. "Of course, we're going to check things."

Attempts to reach Folmar for comment were unsuccessful.

Roddey rips dishonest tactics

Allegheny GOP chair Roddey says Gerlach misquoted him.

For The Valley Independent

Allegheny County Republican Committee Chairman Jim Roddey on Monday accused Rep. Jim Gerlach's gubernatorial campaign of dishonest tactics, saying it misquoted him.

Gerlach, a Chester County Republican, released a statement last week that included a statement Roddey made regarding the potential congressional candidacy of U.S. Attorney Mary Beth Buchanan. The campaign said Roddey agreed with his contention that state Attorney General Tom Corbett should drop out of the governor's race or resign his office.

"In what can only be described as an intentional deception ... you took my remarks and tried to deceive people into thinking they were applicable to your gubernatorial opponent Tom Corbett," Roddey wrote yesterday to Gerlach.

He said his comments about who should run for office applied only to appointed prosecutors like Buchanan, not elected ones like Corbett. His letter reiterated his endorsement of Corbett.

"In the last few months, I and many other Republican leaders across the state have become increasingly disappointed with the tone and rhetoric of your campaign," Roddey wrote.

Neither Gerlach nor his campaign spokesman could be reached for comment.

"I suspect that his campaign people are giving him bad advice, because it was a stupid thing to do," Roddey said in an interview. "It's just sort of a desperate attempt to get some traction. Their campaign isn't going anywhere. Corbett is the heavy favorite."

Roddey said he long has been friends with Gerlach, and telephoned him yesterday but hasn't heard back.

"It's not his style," Roddey said. "It's very unusual."

VALLEY BRIEFS

In the Valley Grapevine column published Monday, it was stated that the second annual Donora Smog Scientific Symposium will be held 1 p.m. Friday at the Donora Municipal Building. The location of the symposium has been changed to the Donora Elementary Center.

Pioneering feminist dies in N. Carolina

DURHAM, N.C. (AP) — Margaret Taylor Harper, a former candidate for lieutenant governor as the women's movement burgeoned in North Carolina, who also made marks in journalism, business and charitable work, died Sunday. She was 92.

Harper died at Duke Hospital in Durham from complications related to a stroke she suffered last week, said her son, Ed Harper, editor of *The State Port Pilot,* a family-owned newspaper in Southport.

A Brunswick County native, Harper ran for the Democratic nomination for lieutenant governor in 1968, finishing second to Pat Taylor. She ran again four years later, finishing third to eventual winner and later four-time Gov. Jim Hunt.

Ed Harper said his mother's bids for statewide office were a natural extension of her political interests. She had been a leader in the North Carolina Democratic Women and was past president of the North Carolina Federation of Women's Clubs.

The two election defeats actually made her more well-known, her son said, allowing her to later become a trustee at both the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Carolina.

She operated her family's local insurance agency, and also edited *The State Port Pilot* while her husband, James, served during World War II.

Margaret Harper also was executive secretary of the North Carolina Press Association from 1969 to 1978.

In Loving Memory Of
Giuseppe Malone
Our beloved brother and uncle, who passed away 63 years ago, October 13, 1946.
Sadly missed by his sister Catherine and Family.

NEWS

TODAY IN HISTORY

OCTOBER 13

Today is Tuesday, Oct. 13, the 286th day of 2009. There are 79 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight

Oct. 13, 1792, the cornerstone of the executive mansion, later known as the White House, was laid during a ceremony in the District of Columbia.

On this date:

■ In A.D. 54, Roman Emperor Claudius I died, poisoned apparently at the behest of his wife, Agrippina.

■ In 1775, the U.S. Navy had its origins as the Continental Congress ordered the construction of a naval fleet.

■ In 1843, the Jewish organization B'nai B'rith was founded in New York City.

■ In 1858, the sixth debate between senatorial candidates Abraham Lincoln and Stephen Douglas took place in Quicy, Ill.

■ In 1909, political cartoonist Herbert Block (aka "Herblock") was born in Chicago; jazz virtuoso Art Tatum was born in Toledo, Ohio.

■ In 1943, Italy declared war on Germany, its one-time Axis partner.

■ In 1944, American troops entered Aachen, Germany, during World War II.

■ In 1960, Richard M. Nixon and John F. Kennedy participated in the third televised debate of their presidential campaign. (Nixon was in Los Angeles; Kennedy was in New York.)

■ In 1962, Edward Albee's play "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" opened on Broadway.

■ In 1974, longtime television host Ed Sullivan died in New York City at age 72.

■ **Ten years ago**: The Senate rejected the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, 51-48, far short of the 67 votes needed for ratification. In Boulder, Colo., the JonBenet Ramsey grand jury was dismissed after 13 months of work with prosecutors saying there wasn't enough evidence to charge anyone in the 6-year-old's strangulation.

■ **Five years ago**: President George W. Bush and Democratic rival John Kerry held their third and final debate in Tempe, Ariz., trading blows on the Iraq war, taxes, gun control, abortion and jobs.

■ **One year ago**: On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrial average gained a shocking 936 points after eight days of losses. American Paul Krugman won the Nobel prize in economics for his work on international trade patterns.

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Associated Press

Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., left, talks with Senate Finance Committee member Kent Conrad, D-N.D. as they head to the Senate on Capitol Hill in Washington last Thursday - the same day Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid, of Nevada, announced that the Senate Finance Committee would vote today on the health care bill.

Senate panel facing vital vote on health care today

Proposed law would require nearly all Americans to purchase insurance and usher in a host of other health care changes.

By ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Barack Obama's plan to remake the nation's health care system is about to take its biggest step yet toward becoming reality.

The pivotal Senate Finance Committee was poised to approve sweeping legislation today requiring nearly all Americans to purchase insurance and ushering in a host of other changes to the nation's $2.5 trillion medical system.

Much work would lie ahead before a bill could arrive on Obama's desk, but action by the Finance Committee would mark a significant advance, capping numerous delays as Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., held marathon negotiating sessions — ultimately unsuccessful — aimed at producing a bipartisan bill.

Four other congressional committees acted before August to pass health legislation, so for months all eyes have been on the Finance Committee, the remaining one.

It's also the panel whose moderate makeup most closely resembles the Senate as a whole.

And the committee's centrist legislation is seen as the best building block for a compromise plan that could find favor on the Senate floor.

With Democrats holding a 13-10 majority on the committee the outcome of Tuesday's vote is not in doubt.

The big question mark is whether moderate Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine will become the first Republican to support a health overhaul bill. The legislation that passed the other House and Senate committees did so without a single Republican vote.

On Monday, Snowe still wasn't saying.

With Finance Committee passage, Obama's top domestic priority will have advanced farther than former President Bill Clinton's effort ever did.

The Clinton health plan never made it through all the congressional committees with jurisdiction.

The final days before today's long-anticipated vote were rocky.

After playing nice for months, the health insurance industry released a report contending that the legislation would cause hefty increases in health insurance premiums.

Democrats and their allies scrambled Monday to knock it down.

"Distorted and flawed," said White House spokeswoman Linda Douglass. AARP's senior policy strategist, John Rother, called it "fundamentally dishonest."

The drama threatened to overshadow the vote on the 10-year, $829-billion plan that Baucus has touted as the sensible solution to America's problems of high medical costs and too many uninsured.

The bill includes consumer protections such as limits on copays and deductibles and relies on federal subsidies to help lower-income families purchase coverage.

Insurance companies would have to take all comers, and people could shop for insurance within new state marketplaces called exchanges.

A NEW PROGRAM OFFERED

LIVING WELL Through the Seasons

Friday, October 23
6 p.m.
Monongahela Valley Hospital
Anthony M. Lombardi
Education Conference Center

Wednesday, October 28
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Mon-Vale HealthPLEX
WillowPointe Plaza
Rostraver

Living Well Through The Seasons takes a multidisciplinary approach to nutrition and fitness.

MVH Nutrition and Food Service, the Center for Fitness and Health and the Dr. Dean Ornish Program have teamed up to educate and demonstrate to area residents:

- Healthy holiday eating
- Simple ways to achieve fitness and health benefits
- Low fat nutrition tips and
- Stress management.

Cooking demonstrations will be included as part of the presentations.

For more information or to register, call **724-258-1320.**

MVH Monongahela Valley Hospital
HEALTH CARE

THE WORLD BRIEFLY

U.S. job losses mar recovery

WASHINGTON (AP) — A distressed economy is widely blamed for President George H.W. Bush's re-election defeat in 1992, and a decade earlier, for the loss of 26 House seats in midterm elections by Ronald Reagan's Republicans.

Yet in both instances recession had already ended or was winding down.

It's a point not lost on President Barack Obama's White House or Democrats headed into next year's midterm elections.

The stock market may be up, U.S. service industries may be recovering, banks may be lending again and housing prices holding.

But one major piece of the recovery puzzle is still missing: a brighter employment picture.

And that's bad news for the party in power, whether the recession is officially over or not.

Job losses are expected to continue at least into the middle of next year, likely driving the unemployment rate above 10 percent from 9.8 percent last month.

It could take three or four more years for it to fall to normal levels.

The longest and deepest downturn since the Great Depression has claimed 7.2 million jobs since it began in December 2007.

Analysts figure 750,000 more jobs could disappear over the next six months.

Teachers benefit from stimulus $$

WASHINGTON (AP) — Teachers appear to have benefited most from the effort to save jobs with the $787 billion recovery package, which sent billions of dollars to states that were on the verge of ordering heavy layoffs in education.

The national data on the impact of President Barack Obama's stimulus plan won't be available until later this month.

But based on preliminary information obtained by The Associated Press from a handful of states, the stimulus spared tens of thousands of teachers from losing their jobs.

Construction companies also are expected to report strong job numbers thanks to billions of dollars in highway money.

State officials around the U.S. worked to meet a Saturday reporting deadline as part of the most ambitious effort to calculate in real time the effect of the government spending program. From 11 jobs repaving a road in Caldwell, Texas, to one job at Utah food banks, to two forensic scientist positions in North Dakota, states were required to say exactly what became of billions in government aid.

North Korea fires five missiles

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea reportedly test-launched five short-range missiles — and may fire more — in what analysts said is an attempt to improve its bargaining position ahead of possible talks with the United States.

North Korea has recently reached out to the U.S. and South Korea following months of tension over its nuclear and missile tests earlier this year.

Leader Kim Jong Il told visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao last week that his government might return to stalled six-nation negotiations on its nuclear program depending on the outcome of direct talks it seeks with the United States.

Washington has said it is considering holding talks with North Korea as part of efforts to restart the six-party negotiations.

'PENNSYLVANIA CASH 5'

HARRISBURG (AP) — One player matched all five winning numbers drawn in Monday's "Pennsylvania Cash 5" game and will collect a jackpot worth $579,714.50.

Lottery officials said 149 players matched four numbers and won $242 each; 5,526 players matched three numbers and won $11 each; and 67,352 players matched two numbers and won $1 each.

The winning numbers in Monday evening's drawing of the Pennsylvania Lottery's "Cash 5" game were: 08-10-19-33-37

The Valley Independent Lottery Results

PENNSYLVANIA DAILY NUMBERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009

DAY PICK 3:	8-3-3
NIGHT PICK 3:	4-7-1
DAY PICK BIG 4:	5-3-1-9
NIGHT PICK BIG 4:	4-4-6-3
DAY QUINTO:	1-6-4-1-8
NIGHT QUINTO:	2-0-3-2-9
TREASURE HUNT:	3-6-8-18-24
CASH 5:	8-10-19-33-37
MIX & MATCH:	1-18-3-15-11

OHIO DAILY NUMBERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009

DAY PICK 3:	0-6-5
NIGHT PICK 3:	4-9-6
DAY PICK 4:	8-2-8-9
NIGHT PICK 4:	6-4-8-7
ROLLING CASH 5:	4-12-17-20-31
CLASSIC LOTTO:	4-23-26-27-29-33

WEST VIRGINIA DAILY NUMBERS
MONDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2009

DAILY 3:	7-4-0
DAILY 4:	0-0-4-8
CASH 25:	15-16-18-22-24-25

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of winning numbers and prize payouts. In the event of a discrepancy, the official and certified files maintained by the Pennsylvania Lottery's Security Office shall prevail.

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OUR OPINION

Weaselly punt on state budget

AND SO, the Great Pennsylvania Budget Saga of 2009 has ended. After a 101-day impasse, the Keystone State finally has a spending blueprint for fiscal 2010. Woo-hoo and ding-dong and all that.

Some pols are slapping themselves on the back for avoiding a personal income tax increase and other tax hikes, a small improvement in how the Corporate Net Income Tax is calculated and a clampdown on legislators' tawdry little slush funds better known as WAMs, for "walking around money."

But there's really nothing to cheer about, reminds Matthew Brouillette, president of the Commonwealth Foundation think tank. The budget still "taxes too much, spends too much and puts Pennsylvania on an unsustainable path to the future."

There already are projections of a $1.6 billion budget deficit next year. The big elephant in the room, "pension reform," was left for another day. More diddling with the phaseout schedule of the Capital Stock and Franchise Tax means the state will continue to rob the private, expansion-fueling and job-creating investment pool.

Rep. Tim Krieger, R-Hempfield Township, one of the few bright lights in a Legislature full of dim bulbs, put it best: "Pretending Pennsylvania's fiscal situation is fine does not make it so."

The new budget is nothing but a weaselly punt. But the good news is that it's one that should come back to slap legislators just in time for the 2010 elections.

Do you agree? Do you disagree? The Valley Independent wants to hear from you. E-mail us at valleyletters@tribweb. com or write a letter to the editor. Include your phone number to allow for verification. Please limit letters to 350 words. We reserve the right to edit.

ANOTHER VIEW

The Miami Herald, on The Obama administration and reporters rights:

The Obama administration's efforts to impede Senate approval of a law designed to protect reporters from punishment if they refuse to divulge confidential sources are both surprising and utterly disappointing. ...

Now that he's the decider, Mr. Obama has developed cold feet. Last week, he let lawmakers know that he wanted the bill changed in a way that would cripple key provisions on when and how to invoke protections for reporters and their sources. ...

No one disputes that there are instances when the government should have the right to compel information to safeguard the public. That is why all versions of the bill offer a qualified, rather than absolute privilege, with courts providing meaningful judicial review to determine when the "media shield" should come into play.

It also requires prosecutors to make reporters the last stop, not the first stop, for finding the source of information. More important, it offers a balancing test that weighs the needs of the government for information against "the public interest in gathering news and maintaining the free flow of information." ...

The Judiciary Committee should quit trying to work with the White House and approve the bill as is.

How to reach us

The Valley Independent welcomes the input of our readers. Letters, e-mails and faxes must be signed and should include an address and daytime telephone number so the content of the message can be verified. (Phone numbers will not be published.)

Send your comments:

— By mail to Your Opinion, The Valley Independent, Eastgate 19, Monessen, Pa. 15062.

— By e-mail to valleyletters@tribweb.com

— By fax to (724) 684-2603.

All messages are subject to editing for clarification, brevity and libel. Messages should be kept to 300 words. (No poetry, please.)

While letters usually are published in order of submission, those concerning timely local issues are given priority.

Losing strategy in Afghanistan

Morton **KONDRACKE**

More and more, it looks as though President Barack Obama is going to adopt a "split the difference" policy on Afghanistan that will basically continue current strategy — and likely lead to catastrophe.

Obama told congressional leaders last week that he does not intend to reduce U.S. troop levels, but he described his war aims strictly in terms of "targeting Al Qaeda," not defeating its Taliban allies.

What I've been hearing for weeks is that he intends to complete his planned deployment of 68,000 troops in Afghanistan — then hold at that level — and reject his military commanders' call for up to 40,000 additional troops.

This presumably would satisfy his fellow Democrats, who adamantly oppose the "surge" recommended by Gen. Stanley McChrystal, without openly signaling that he intends to retreat from Afghanistan.

When he unveils the strategy, it likely will be gussied up with declarations that the United States will step up civilian aid, anticorruption activities, training of Afghan forces and measures to destroy terrorist targets in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

The problem with this "counterterrorism" strategy is that, with a few new wrinkles, it's a continuation of what's going on at present — ironically, the policy that he inherited from former President George W. Bush.

And this policy is plainly losing Afghanistan to the Taliban and increasing the likelihood that Afghanistan could once again become a sanctuary for Al Qaeda and Taliban operations against Pakistan.

McChrystal, the U.S. commander in Afghanistan, is urgently arguing for a change in strategy to "counterinsurgency" — the protect-the-population policy that saved Iraq from disaster — and insists the shift will require more forces.

As he wrote in his leaked Aug. 30 report, "Our campaign in Afghanistan has been historically under-resourced and remains so today. Almost every aspect of our collective effort and associated resources has lagged a growing insurgency — historically, a recipe for failure in counter-insurgency.

"Success will require a discrete 'jump' to gain the initiative, demonstrate progress in the short term and secure long-term support. Resources will not win this war, but under-resourcing could lose it."

Arrayed against McChrystal's recommendation are many of the same figures who opposed the 2007 troop surge in Iraq recommended and successfully carried out by Gen. David Petraeus, now commander of all U.S. forces in the Middle East and McChrystal's immediate superior.

The surge foes — proved decisively wrong — include Vice President Joseph Biden, Senate Foreign Relations Chairman John Kerry, D-Mass., Senate Armed Services Chairman Carl Levin, D-Mich., Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif., and National Security Adviser James Jones.

Obama is right to be meticulously reviewing the options. Bush for too long followed the flawed advice of his military commanders and Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld.

What counts, however, is deciding on the right strategy and being willing to give it adequate resources. Obama's political advisers, including Chief of Staff Rahm Emanuel, undoubtedly are warning him that he risks becoming "another Lyndon Johnson," who became entrapped in Vietnam and lost his ambitious domestic agenda.

But Afghanistan, difficult as it is, is not Vietnam, where the enemy had a secure sanctuary and popular support. Pakistan is attacking Taliban and Al Qaeda sanctuaries in its territory, and the Taliban basically rules by fear.

Nor is Afghanistan necessarily "the graveyard of empires." Britain and the Soviet Union sought to occupy and exploit the country. McChrystal's policy is to offer security, good governance and economic opportunity to the population.

But the United States has a deficit of trust in the region. As Pakistan's foreign minister, Shah Mahmood Qureshi, told National Public Radio this week, after Pakistan helped the United States push the Soviets out of Afghanistan: "(The U.S.) left. You abandoned us."

Similarly, McChrystal recounted last week assuring an Afghan villager that the U.S. intended to remain and provide security.

"He looked at me and said, 'OK, but you did not stay the last time,'" which led to civil war, the Taliban takeover and a base for Al Qaeda.

Obama is not going to openly abandon Afghanistan, which he describes as "a war of necessity, not choice," but he may not provide enough troops to defeat the Taliban.

As Rep. Mark Kirk, R-Ill., a reserve Naval intelligence officer, puts it, "A cruise-control policy will end up in a long, bloody holding action. And democracies are not into long, bloody holding actions. We are into 'victory or pull out.'

"We have been in this for eight years. If you put this mission on cruise control, people will lose faith in it, even the military will lose faith in it, and that leads to defeat," he said.

(Kirk, an early backer of Arizona GOP Sen. John McCain, also told me that he would gladly take part in a movement to draft Petraeus for the 2012 Republican nomination.)

Beware of the environmentalists

YOUR OPINION

To the Editor:

What a breath of fresh air! Amidst the daily reports of bad economic news, lower heating bills are a welcome reprieve as winter approaches.

It appears that we can expect a decrease of approximately 40 percent in our monthly bills. Wow, can you ever recall a reduction of that magnitude in any of our outlays? This decrease is directly related to the discovery and extraction of natural gas from the vast Marcellus Shale deposits found in our state. When production increases, our costs go down, and that is welcome news.

We shouldn't get too cozy and snug in our comfy homes, though. Soon, as in the past, the environmental groups will be actively scheming to halt the drilling.

Here's the scenario: They will accuse the "evil" drillers of destroying our environment. Fracking, the process used to bring the gas to the surface, will be said to be the cause of irreparable harm to our streams and water supplies. Inevitably, the enviro groups will find a friendly judge to issue an injunction to stop the drilling until a study is done.

If they have their way, production will stop and our costs will increase. Don't be skeptical. The game plan has been utilized many times in the past.

Production is the key. The more there is of a commodity, the less it costs. Recently, natural gas production increased and our costs decreased. Thankfully, so far the environmentalists and their allies in Congress haven't been able to cap the wells ... yet.

We fill our cars with imported gas priced higher than necessary because domestic oil production has been greatly limited by the aforementioned dynamic duo. As you read this, President Obama and the Democrats in Congress are actively pursuing a policy of federalizing lands with vast reserves of oil. The result of this ludicrous action will render those lands off limits to production.

With unemployment nearing 10 percent, folks losing their homes, a national debt beyond our comprehension and a dollar dropping faster than Congress dropped ACORN funding, our leaders should utilize every natural resource in this great land to lower the cost of living.

Our environment has never been cleaner. How about some concern for our bank accounts? It all boils down to four words: Drill here; drill now.

Walter A. Cieply
Belle Vernon

NEWS

President Obama's travels carry a slight touch of blue

States Obama targeted to win White House are seeing an awful lot of him.

By PHILIP ELLIOTT
Associated Press Writer

PITTSBURGH — For President Barack Obama, it's almost as if the election campaign never ended. Just look at his travel schedule.

The same states that Obama targeted to win the White House are seeing an awful lot of the president, Vice President Joe Biden and top Cabinet officials. Only this year, the taxpayers are footing the multimillion-dollar tab for the trips, and Obama officials are delivering wheelbarrows of economic stimulus money — also compliments of taxpayers.

An Associated Press review of administration travel records shows that three of every four official trips Obama and his key lieutenants made in his first seven months in office were to the 28 states Obama won. Add trips to Missouri and Montana — both of which Obama narrowly lost — and almost 80 percent of the administration's official domestic travel has been concentrated in states likely to be key to Obama's re-election effort in 2012.

While similar data hasn't been compiled for previous administrations, new presidents traditionally have used official travel to shore up — and add to — their political base. Just look at President George W. Bush.

"When we were trying to build support for key policy initiatives, it made sense for President Bush to travel to states with persuadable citizens," says Scott Stanzel, a former White House spokesman who was the press secretary for Bush's 2004 re-election bid. "That meant visits to 'purple states' where people weren't as likely to already support or oppose the president's plans."

For Obama, the key policy initiative early on was a $787 billion economic stimulus package. While aimed at the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, it also gave the new administration a chance to reap political benefits traditionally reserved for lawmakers touting pork-barrel projects back home.

Though insisting that the stimulus legislation include no such "earmarked" congressional projects, Obama, Biden and the Cabinet spent months traveling the country to announce billions of dollars in new federal job-creating money that was going for bridge construction and green-energy projects, and for extended unemployment benefits.

Biden in particular has been the bearer of stimulus good news, making nearly two dozen trips to 14 states to tout the legislation and its impact on local communities.

The vice president has made five stimulus trips just to Pennsylvania, a must-win state in 2008 that never faded from Obama's political planning meetings. All told, administration officials have been to the Keystone state more than three dozen times since January.

Obama spoke last month to the nation's largest labor organization in a packed Pittsburgh ballroom. Days before, Biden was at a Labor Day parade there and praised the reliably Democratic union members. Obama was back a week later, this time to meet with the leaders of the world's 20 largest economies, whom he had invited to the one-time steel city that the White House sees as a barometer of its political standing.

Yes, the White House loves Pittsburgh — and places like it in states that will play a key role in 2012. When Obama visits cities like Cleveland and Columbus, or Detroit and Denver, he gets wall-to-wall coverage in the local press from the time Air Force One lands until it departs, and his poll numbers in the area generally tick upward.

In August, for example, Obama went to Elkhart, Ind., to announce $2.4 billion in stimulus grants for production of electric and hybrid cars. Indiana and Michigan — the two states benefiting the most — both backed Obama in 2008 and will be important politically to him next time.

Colorado, which has shifted from Republican-leaning to Democrat-friendly in recent years, had seen Obama officials 35 times through early August, including Obama's Feb. 17 trip to Denver to sign the stimulus bill into law. Virginia, which gave Obama a surprise victory in 2008 and has one of this year's two governor's races, has gotten 17 visits. Combined, those states have received $8.9 billion from the stimulus bill.

Associated Press

President Barack Obama addresses the AFL-CIO convention in Pittsburgh on Sept. 15. Days before, Vice President Joe Biden was at Pittsburgh's Labor Day parade. Obama was back a week later, this time to meet with the leaders of the world's 20 largest economies, whom he had invited to the one-time steel city that the White House sees as a barometer of its political standing.

Profile

(FROM PAGE THREE)

"She's has really bad arthritis, but she still goes," Kulasa said. "She knows when she's going to a show. We get her all fancied up and she's all happy the night before."

Kulasa is an eighth grader at Rostraver Middle School with a 4.0 grade point average.

She spends from 15 to 20 hours per week working with Annie and works part-time tending to horses at the Sun Hill ranch and running weekend pony rides at local birthday parties.

Kulasa said she wants to become either an equine veterinarian or a professional horse trainer.

Missy Kulasa said finding a niche for her daughter was a matter of trial and error.

"We tried it all; tennis, soccer, volleyball, dance," she said. "We went to everything, and she kept asking about horses. Finally, after we tried every other sport, we put her in a horse lesson. From the first lesson on, she never looked back."

Oil prices rise in Asia market

SINGAPORE (AP) — Oil prices rose to near $74 a barrel today in Asia as investors eyed a weakening U.S. dollar and looked to commodities for protection against possible inflation.

Benchmark crude for November delivery was up 52 cents at $73.79 by late afternoon Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

The contract gained $1.50 to settle at $73.27 on Monday amid expectations of stronger demand during the U.S. winter.

Crude has shuffled between $65 and $75 for months as traders mull signs of an uneven economic recovery and consumer demand.

The dollar has slid over the last month on concern that massive stimulus spending designed to spark economic growth will eventually trigger inflation.

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Day care next in child obesity fight

Few states regulate the centers' food choices or physical activitiy.

By LAURAN NEERGAARD
AP Medical Writer

WASHINGTON — Grilled chicken replaced the hot dogs. Strawberries instead of cookies at snack time. No more fruit juice — water or low-fat milk only. This is the new menu at a Delaware day care center, part of a fledgling movement to take the fight against obesity to pudgy preschoolers.

Day care is the next frontier: New Harvard research shows few states require that child-care providers take specific nutrition and physical activity steps considered key to keeping the under-5 crowd fit.

And while years of work now have older kids starting to get healthier food in schools, more and more kindergarteners show up their first day already overweight or obese.

"We've got to start really early. Elementary school is too late," Dr. Lynn Silver of the New York City Health Department — a leader in anti-obesity standards for day care — told a recent meeting that brought child-care specialists together with federal and state health authorities to start learning how.

This isn't about putting youngsters on a diet. It's about teaching them early, before bad habits form, how being active and eating healthy can be the norm — and that junk food, including the chicken nuggets-type fare that we call "kid food" — should be a rare treat.

Associated Press

Odette Aguilar, 6, eats a lunch of baked chicken, celery, grapes and bread at the Latin American Community Center in Wilmington, Del.

"This is a whole new way of eating for our kids," says Maria Matos, who heads the Latin American Community Center in Wilmington, Del., and has overhauled what she now knows wasn't an ideal preschool menu even though it fully complied with day care regulations.

It took some adjustment. Matos started serving Latino dishes with brown rice instead of white. The mac-and-cheese got a wheat makeover, too. Many of her youngsters had never even seen honeydew and kiwi, and had to be coaxed to try it.

"You have to get people used to this different type of eating," she says. "Some are there, and some are still getting there."

Two-thirds of Americans are either overweight or obese, and it starts shockingly early. Research last April found almost one in five 4-year-olds already was obese. Rates are highest among American Indian, Hispanic and black children, but the problem affects every demographic.

Nearly three-fourths of children ages 2 to 5 spend at least part of their day in child care, about half in formal day-care centers.

That makes day care a vital next front, says Debbie Chang of the Delaware nonprofit Nemours Health & Prevention, which helped push that state to adopt a list of new child-care licensing requirements to do just that.

"Everybody is always pointing fingers at us parents saying, 'You should do better.' A lot of other people are feeding our kids," agrees nutrition specialist Margo Wootan at the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Such mandates aren't common. Harvard researcher Sara Benjamin compiled a top-20 list of nutrition and physical activity regulations that health specialists call key. They include:

- At least 60 minutes of structured physical activity and 60 more minutes of active free play.
- Not letting children sit for more than 30 minutes at a stretch.
- Only 1 percent or fat-free milk for kids 2 and older.
- No more than 6 ounces of 100 percent juice a day.
- No sugar-sweetened beverages.

As of last January, Benjamin found Idaho and Louisiana with the fewest such requirements and Delaware, Georgia, Alaska and Nevada with the most.

Among Benjamin's most disappointing findings: Parents may describe this as the age of ants-in-the-pants, yet an average day included less than an hour of moderate-to-vigorous physical activity. Her team visited one Rhode Island day care last fall where the kids didn't get to run around at all when it rained.

Most states merely require that children "be active throughout the day. What does that mean?" she asked the recent Nemours meeting.

Massachusetts last summer imposed a 60-minute activity rule. Now Benjamin's team is testing how day cares implement that change.

Training providers is key, says Nemours' Chang. Many simply don't know, for instance, that whole milk is unnecessary extra fat for preschoolers while low-fat costs the same.

How much should a preschooler eat? An easy-to-use Web site gives specifics: http://www.mypyramid.gov/preschoolers. Generally, a preschool serving size is about 1 tablespoon of each food type for every year of age. Proper portion sizes were a surprise to Maria Matos, who bought serving spoons pre-measured for preschoolers so they can dip while teachers tell how a colorful plate is a healthy plate.

Matos says the changes cost a bit more; she hired an extra part-time cook to make more from scratch, and fresh foods can cost more than processed. Chang and Wootan say day cares can make many cheap changes — swapping water for juice, for instance.

Hospital sets weekly schedule

Monongahela Valley Hospital will offer the following programs next week:

- Oct. 19 — Cancer Support Group, 7 p.m., Anthony M. Lombardi Education Conference Center. This support group is free and open to all cancer patients and their families. For additional information, call (724) 258-1704.
- Oct. 20, 21 and 22 — Managing Your Diabetes, 6 p.m., Mon-Vale HealthPLEX, Rostraver Township. 3-day, 2-hour per day education series that focuses on diabetes self-management and care. Registration is required at least one-week prior to the start of classes. For more information or to register, call (724) 258-1483.
- Oct. 23 — Living Well Through the Seasons, 6 p.m., education conference center. During this multidisciplinary approach to nutrition and fitness, health care professionals will educate and demonstrate to the audience healthy holiday eating, simple ways to achieve fitness and their health benefits, low fat nutrition tips and stress management. Cooking demonstrations will be included as a part of the presentation. For more information or to register, call (724) 258-1320.

Heed swine flu warning signs

CHICAGO (AP) — Max Gomez was a bright-eyed 5-year-old happy to have just started kindergarten when he developed sniffles and a fever. His mother figured it was only a cold.

Three days later, the Antioch, Tenn., boy was dead, apparently from swine flu.

At least 76 American children have died from the new virus, and doctors are urging parents to watch for warning signs that the flu has become life-threatening.

Ruth Gomez says Max developed dangerous symptoms — bluish fingers and extreme fatigue after seeming to get better — just one day before he died. She took him to the doctor, but it was too late.

"We were in shock," Gomez said softly, still trying to wrap her mind around her little boy's Aug. 31 death. "There are so many unanswered questions. What happened?"

It's a question on other parents' minds, too: How can they protect their kids from swine flu until the vaccine is widely available?

Swine flu has probably infected hundreds of thousands of youngsters nationwide, but deaths among children are rare. Health officials are keeping track of children's flu deaths, but they say it's impossible to count all flu cases. So they don't know what percentage of children's infections are fatal.

Many experts say the H1N1 virus does not appear to be more dangerous than other flu strains, but kids have been catching it more easily than seasonal flu.

Last week alone, there were 19 new reports of children who died, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. And the 76 swine flu fatalities since April compare with 68 pediatric deaths from seasonal flu since September 2008.

Because kids seem so vulnerable to it, "every medical epidemiologist in the country" is tracking how it affects them, said Dr. Susan Gerber, an associate medical officer for the public health department in Cook County, Ill.

Most children will recover, but "it's still very concerning and needs to be watched very closely" Gerber said.

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"A Second Look"

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Phillies advance

A dramatic ninth-inning rally lifted Philadelphia past the Rockies and into the NLCS. **2B**

Valley
SPORTS

Willis on Mini-Page

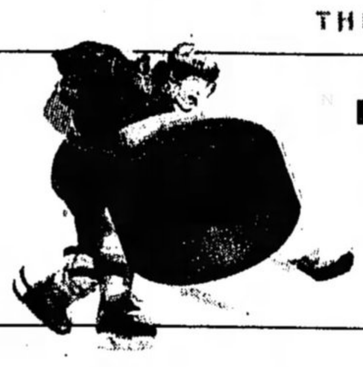
San Francisco 49ers linebacker Patrick Willis is featured on today's Mini-Page. **7B**

Dolphins run wild

Miami used its wildcat offense to perfection Monday night to shoot down the New York Jets. **4B**

Sports Trivia

Who are the only three NFL quarterbacks with 50 300-yard passing games? **2B**



Last night's games

Colorado 4, Boston 3
N.Y. Rangers 7, Toronto 2
Tampa Bay 3, Florida 2
Edmonton 6, Nashville 1
Chicago 6, Calgary 5, OT
Phoenix 1, San Jose 0, SO

Brian **HERMAN**

Tourney site bad news for BVA golfers

Belle Vernon Area High golf coach Jay Lustig was upset when he found out Monday where his once-beaten Leps will be playing in Wednesday's WPIAL Division I Team Tournament.

You can't blame him.

Instead of going to Donegal Highlands in the Laurel Highlands, the Leps are headed north to Castle Hills Golf Club near New Castle.

"It never entered my mind that we'd be going to New Castle," said Lustig. "Of the eight Division 1 winners, we're the only one that has to travel further than second place teams."

The New Castle course is a 101-mile trip for the Leps, 71 more than Donegal Highlands.

What bothers Lustig is that his players have never played at Castle Hills and will get their first look at the course today.

"Golf is the one sport where the course familiarity is most important," he said. "We were prepared for Donegal Highlands, where we play very well."

The Leps are appearing in the WPIAL event for the third straight year.

"The first year we were excited just to get in," said Lustig. "This year we're in it to win it that's our mindset. We're as good as any team, but this is clearly an obstacle we have to overcome.

"I'm going from very confident to very concerned," he added.

Joining the Leps in the eight-team field at Castle Hills will be Fox Chapel, Penn-Trafford, Bethel Park, North Allegheny, Blackhawk, Mars and Thomas Jefferson.

Meanwhile, Laurel Highlands — which finished second to the Leps — plays at Donegal Highlands with Peters Township, Central Catholic, Elizabeth Forward, Latrobe, Moon, Seneca Valley and Shady Side Academy.

The top three teams will advance to Cedarbrook Monday for the WPIAL finals.

In Division II, Bentworth's unbeaten team will be playing at Indian Run Golf Club in Avella with California going to Pheasant Ridge Golf Club in Gibsonia.

■ Wednesday night's Bentworth at Charleroi girls' soccer game may be a little awkward for Lady Bearcats' coach Dan Haywood.

That's when Haywood will be inducted into the Charleroi Girls Soccer Hall of Fame with Shellie Cotton and Krystal Savarino.

Haywood was the first coach in the Lady Cougars' history, guiding the team for 19 years. He led he team to the PIAA Class AA championship games in both 1999 and 2000.

Cotton is the WPIAL's all-time leading goal scorer with 199, while Savarino ranks sixth among WPIAL goalkeepers with 37 career shutouts.

■ And thanks to Stan Raymond, of Belle Vernon, who says a diplomat is anyone who thinks twice before saying nothing!

Pens perfect on the road

Tyler Kennedy scores twice in Monday's 4-1 victory at Ottawa.

OTTAWA (AP) — It'll take more than a pair of goals for Tyler Kennedy to steal the spotlight from Sidney Crosby.

Kennedy scored twice and Marc-Andre Fleury made 30 saves, leading the Pittsburgh Penguins to a 4-1 win over the Ottawa Senators on Monday night.

Bill Guerin and Jordan Staal also scored for the Penguins, who won their third in a row to remain undefeated on the road despite Crosby and Evgeni Malkin being held off the scoresheet.

"He's the best player in the world and you know that's why he gets the publicity," said Kennedy, who had a couple of reporters around him while a camera-laden scrum besieged Crosby. "He deserves everything he gets."

Kennedy gave Pittsburgh a 2-1 lead in the second with his third goal of the season. He added his fourth goal — his second of the game — later in the period when he beat Pascal Leclaire with a slap shot from the top of the right faceoff circle.

Crosby, who scored twice in a 5-2 win in Toronto on Saturday, praised the work of Kennedy and his linemates, Matt Cooke and Craig Adams.

"He's playing great for us and that whole line has really been great," said Crosby, who was held without a point for the third time in four games. "You could see the chemistry kind of start last season and you see it right off the bat here this season, starting where they left off last year so that's huge for us and we really pride ourselves on our depth and having everyone contribute, and they've just really added to that."

Milan Michalek got his first Ottawa goal to open the scoring 15:59 in.

Leclaire made 24 saves as the Senators (3-2-0) ended a

(See PENGUINS, Page 4B)

Associated Press

Ottawa's Jarkko Ruutu, right, reacts after getting a stick in the face as he checks Pittsburgh's Ruslan Fedotenko during the second period Monday.

Rams' Patch Player of the Week

Ringgold QB scored three times in near upset of Chartiers Valley.

By BRIAN HERMAN
Sports Editor
bherman@tribweb.com

"He makes things happen when things break down."

That was Ringgold football coach Lloyd Price talking about his junior quarterback Dylan Patch.

Price wouldn't get an argument from unbeaten Chartiers Valley.

Patch came close to sending the highly touted Colts down to their first defeat when he ran for 195 yards on 15 carries and scored three touchdowns in the Rams' 24-22 defeat to the Colts.

With that showing Patch is *The Valley Independent* Player of the Week.

Dylan Patch

Patch's scoring runs were 79 yards in the first quarter, 26 yards in the third quarter and 71 yards in the final period.

His third touchdown gave the Rams a 22-21 lead before the Colts avoided the upset with a 29-yard field goal with 6:05 remaining.

Price wasn't surprised by Patch's performance.

"He's definitely our playmaker," said Price. "We knew he had that in him and want to get the ball in his hands,"

Honorable mention:

■ Charleroi's Quentin Briggs, who ran for 174 yards and scored a touchdown in the Cougars' 14-7 win over Waynesburg.

■ Charleroi's Kyle Shannon, who caught the game-winning 28-yard touchdown pass from Tommy Thorpe with 58 seconds remaining.

■ Belle Vernon Area's Matt Green, who scored two touchdowns and gained 143 yards in the Leps' 21-6 win at Trinity.

■ Frazier's Chase Kirmeyer, who scored a pair of touchdowns and ran for 110 yards in the Commodores' 21-20 overtime win over Burgettstown.

■ Frazier's James Kline, who rushed for 119 yards and added a touchdown.

■ Yough's Brandon Gelet, who completed eight of 14 passes for 171 yards and a touchdown in the Cougars' 33-13 loss to Greensburg Salem.

■ California's Dakota Conway, who caught five passes for 88 yards and a touchdown and returned a kick 85 yards for six points in the Trojans' 44-26 defeat to Carmichaels.

■ Monessen's ShelDon Miller, who ran for 155 yards on seven carries and scored on a 73-yard run in the Greyhounds' 35-7 romp at Geibel.

■ Monessen's Trae Cook, who gained 113 yards on 16 carries.

Steelers can't afford to relax

Players, coaches seek solution to fourth-quarter letdowns.

By ALAN ROBINSON
AP Sports Writer

PITTSBURGH — Every fourth quarter is an adventure for the Pittsburgh Steelers, every game is a struggle.

They're losing games that good teams usually win, and barely winning games that good teams typically dominate. They were forced into overtime in the opener to beat the Tennessee Titans, a team that has yet to win a game. They labored to close out the Detroit Lions, winners of one of 21 games the last two seasons.

Five games into an uneven season, the Steelers are 3-2, yet they haven't resembled the team that won the Super Bowl last season — and they know it. They can only imagine what their record would be if they had played the same schedule as the Patriots (3-2), who have

(See STEELERS, Page 4B)

Associated Press

Steelers defensive back Ike Taylor (24) flies over teammates Ryan Mundy (29) and Ryan Clark (25) while breaking up a pass to Detroit's Bryant Johnson (20) during the fourth quarter Sunday.

SPORTS

Phillies' rally sinks Rockies

Ryan Howard's double is key hit as Philadelphia scores 3 in the ninth.

DENVER (AP) — All of a sudden, the crumbling closer was wearing purple pinstripes instead of Phillies red and white.

Brad Lidge retired Troy Tulowitzki for the final out for the second straight night, sending Philadelphia to the NL championship series with a 5-4 win over the Colorado Rockies.

Lidge's second save Monday — the other came just past midnight in Game 3 — was sweet redemption for the Phillies closer who went from perfect a year ago to perfectly awful in 2009.

He converted all 48 save chances last year, capped when he struck out Tampa Bay's Eric Hinske in Game 5 to clinch the Phillies' World Series title. But he lost his perfect touch this season — he led the majors with 11 blown saves, went 0-8 with a 7.21 ERA and briefly lost his job in September.

Now, he's perfect in the postseason once again.

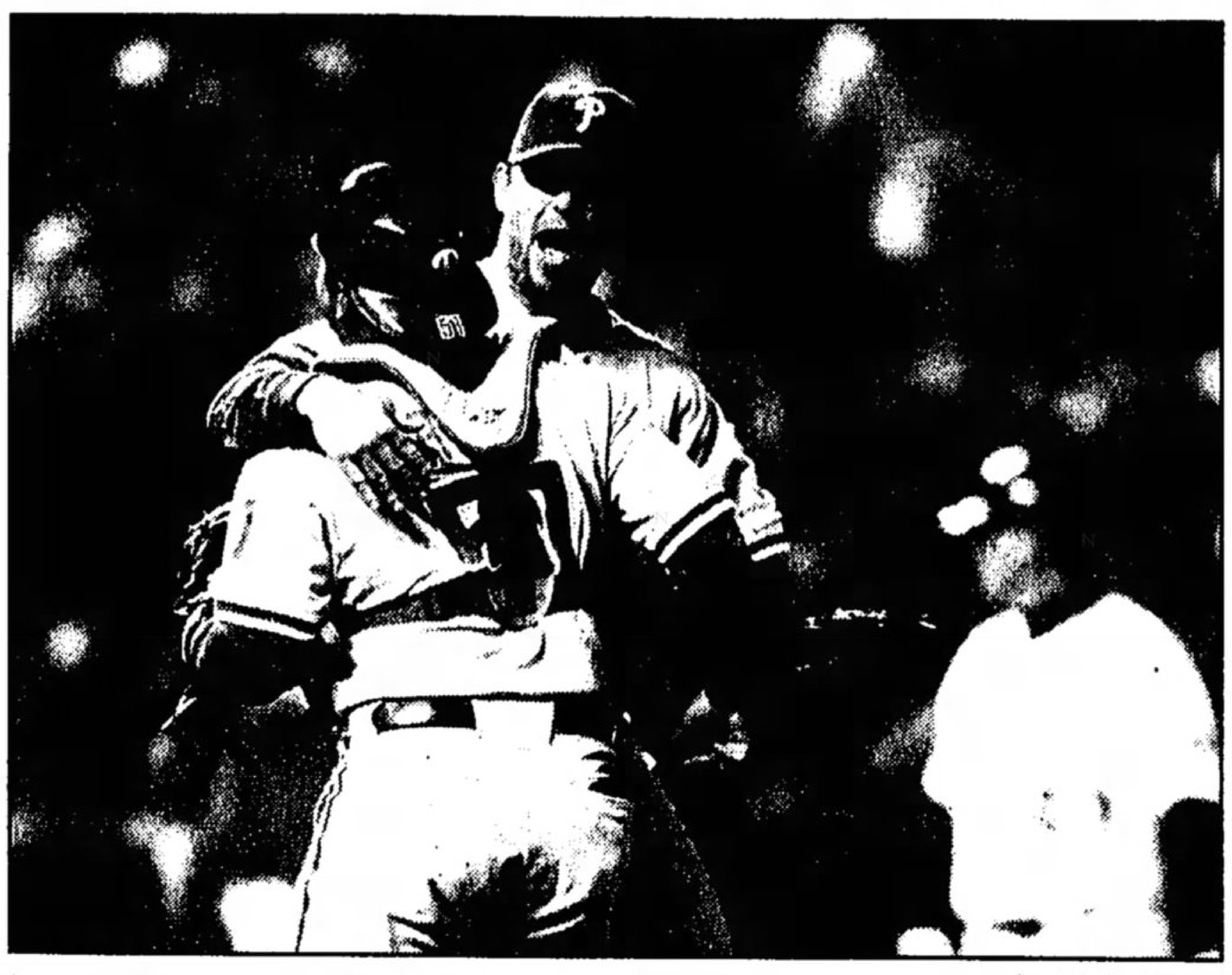
"I've said it before, people go through ups and downs. As long as he's throwing well for us right now, that's all that matters," Ryan Howard said.

Howard hit a two-run double with two outs in the ninth inning off Huston Street and scored on Jayson Werth's single as Philadelphia rallied past the resilient Rockies in Game 4 on Monday to reach the NL championship series.

"Was it a good pitch to Howard? No, it wasn't my best pitch," Street said. "It wasn't painted on the knees at the black. But it was down and it was out. He's a good hitter. Sometimes you get beat."

Tulowitzki, who flied out to end Game 3, struck out this time and the Phillies celebrated on the infield at chilly Coors Field before retreating to the clubhouse for another champagne shower.

"We know we have a long ways to go," Jimmy Rollins said. "So this is the last party."



Associated Press

Philadelphia catcher Carlos Ruiz celebrates with Brad Lidge after the Phillies defeated the Rockies Monday night to earn a spot in the National League Championship Series.

Next, the World Series champions play Thursday night against Los Angeles at Dodger Stadium in an NLCS rematch from last season.

The Rockies thought they had sent the series back to Philly for a decisive Game 5 when they rallied for three runs with two outs in the bottom of the eighth, capped by Yorvit Torrealba's two-run double.

"We thought we were going to pull this out and hop on a plane," Todd Helton said. "It didn't work."

Because Street, who saved 35 games in 37 chances during the season, blew it in the ninth again, one night after taking the loss in Game 3 when Howard hit a sacrifice fly to give the Phillies a 6-5 win.

On his way out of the clubhouse Monday night, Rockies general manager Dan O'Dowd stopped by and gave Street an embrace, followed by some words of encouragement.

"We wouldn't have gotten here without you. You just keep that in mind," O'Dowd said. "I'm really proud of you."

Street, who came to Colorado from Oakland in the Matt Holliday trade last winter, was within a strike of winning before walking Chase Utley and then serving up Howard's big hit with two strikes.

"We were a strike away from making a trip to Philadelphia," lamented Rockies manager Jim Tracy, who went 74-42 after taking over when Clint Hurdle was fired May 29.

Colorado erased a 2-1 deficit in the eighth with a three-run rally that began when Dexter Fowler hurdled Utley at second base. Utley stepped into the basepath to field Todd Helton's slow grounder, and his quick flip to second base was wide right and mishandled for an error by Rollins.

That chased starter Cliff Lee and pinch-hitter Jason Giambi tied it with an RBI single off Ryan Madson before Torrealba's two-run double.

"No one got rattled and no one was worried," Werth said. "Going back to '07, we got swept by the Rockies and I think everybody learned a lesson. Everybody knew what we had to do."

The Phillies, who led the National League in homers for the second straight season with a franchise-record 224, got long balls from Shane Victorino and Werth off Ubaldo Jimenez as they built a 2-0 lead.

The Rockies made it 2-1 in the sixth on an RBI double by Tulowitzki.

NOTES: The Phillies are 50-33 on the road and 6-2 in their last eight road playoff games. ... Philadelphia won last year's NLCS in five games.

10 goals again for Lady Leps

Sasko, Miele and Heck each score twice in BVA romp.

By BILL HUGHES
For The Valley Independent

Most high school girls' soccer teams can go an entire season without scoring in double figures in a game.

Belle Vernon Area did it for the second straight contest and third time this year with a 10-0 romp over Uniontown at James Weir Stadium Monday in Class AAA Section 6.

Marla Sasko, Michelle Miele and Kylee Heck each scored two goals for the Lady Leps (12-2-2, 10-0-2), who share first place with Southmoreland.

Caitlin Pasternak, Lauren Kovalchuk, Lauren Seitzinger and Julee Persichetti had the other BVA goals.

"We had a few days off and the girls came out to play," said BVA coach Paul Sasko. "We possessed the ball and passed really well."

BVA goes to Waynesburg Wednesday.

Soccer roundup

Ringgold 5, Trinity 0

The Lady Rams (6-9, 4-7) avenged a 1-0 loss in their annual Senior Night and climbed into fourth place in Class AAA Section 5.

"The girls played well and we did what we had to do,"said Ringgold coach Tom Cameron.

Amy Bracken scored twice while Lou Zurawski, Amanda Flament and Angela Selby each added a goal.

The Lady Rams host South Allegheny tonight.

Geibel 8, Monessen 2

Desiree Rice scored both goals for the Lady Greyhounds, who lost their third straight in Class AA Section 6.

Hannah Lazuka had three goals in the first half for the Lady Gators (10-4, 8-2), who clinched a playoff spot.

Monessen (4-8-1, 2-7-1) goes to Greensburg Central Catholic Wednesday.

Charleroi 4, Chartiers-Houston 1

Shannon Flament scored two goals as the Lady Cougars snapped a three-game losing skid in Class AA Section 1.

Ronnie Brant and Mara Stima had the other goals for Charleroi (7-9, 4-7), which hosts Bentworth Wednesday.

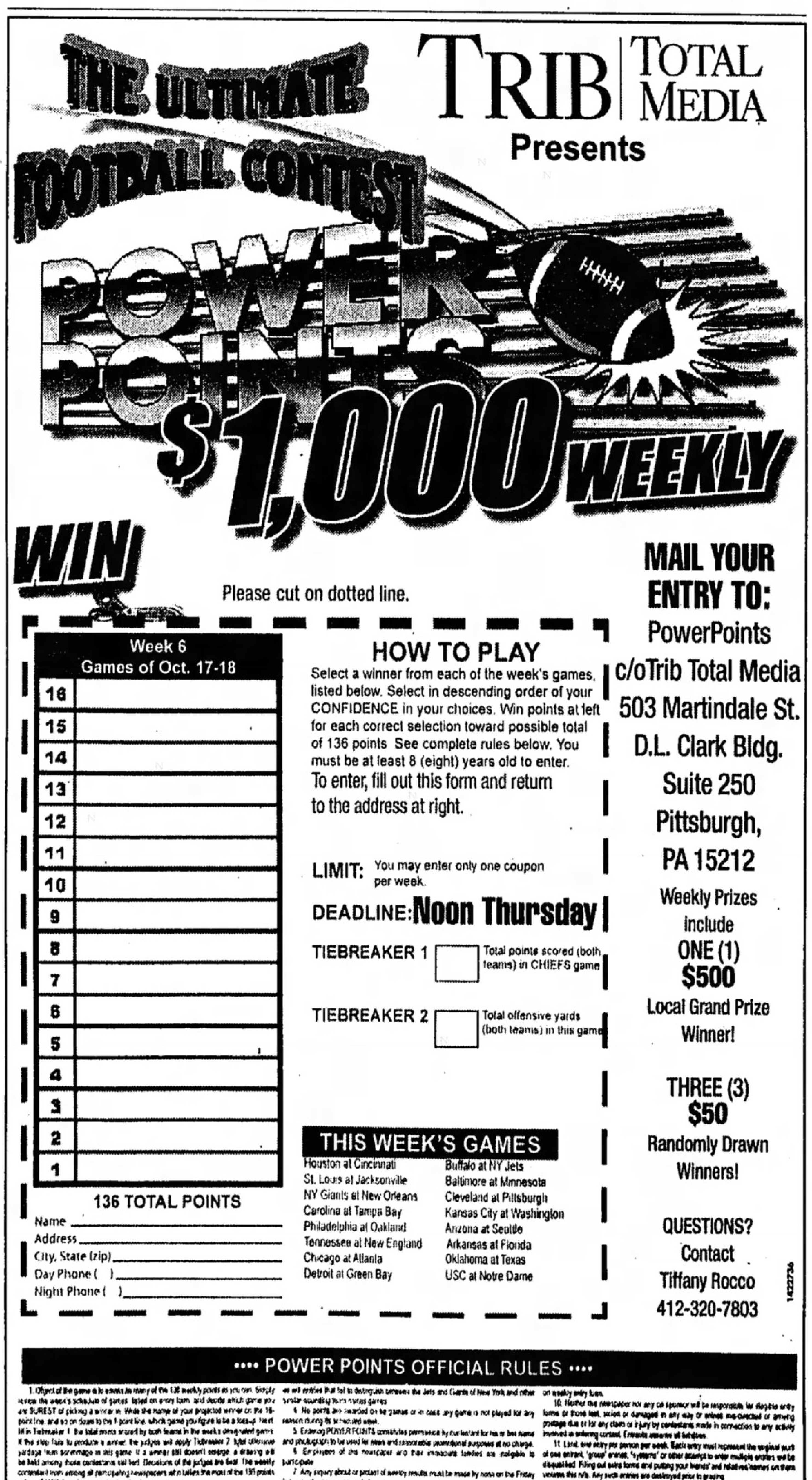
Bentworth 4, East Allgheny 2

Heather Podroskey had three goals and Sam Ritzer a goal and three assists to lead the Lady Bearcats.

Cubs file for bankruptcy

NEW YORK (AP) — The Chicago Cubs filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, a step that will allow their owner to sell the baseball team in an $845 million deal. The filing was anticipated and is expected to lead to a brief stay in Chapter 11 for the Cubs. A hearing was scheduled for Tuesday in front of the judge who has been handling the bankruptcy of the Cubs' owner, Tribune Co.

The Cubs' filing is part of the Tribune Co.'s plans to sell the team, Wrigley Field and related properties.



SPORTS DIGEST

California downs South Allegheny

Patrick Tunney scored twice and Skyler Boehm added a goal for California in a 3-1 Class A Section 1 victory at South Allegheny Monday.

"This gives us more wins than we had last season," said California coach Adam Obranovich.

The Trojans (7-9-1, 4-7-1) host Trinity Christian Thursday.

BVA cagers split with West Hempfield

Belle Vernon Area Middle School's basketball teams split with West Hempfield.

The seventh graders (8-1) avenged their lone loss with a 24-21 win as Tiernie Singleton (8) and Kaitlyn Slagus (7) combined for 15 points.

The eighth graders (9-7) were a 32-13 loser with Megan Staley and Courtney Askin both scoring four points.

Monessen loses to Washington

Monessen Middle school's basketball team slipped to 4-8 with a 35-14 loss to Washington.

BVA booters blank Washington

The Belle Vernon Area Junior High soccer team upped its record to 11-1 with a 9-0 win over Washington.

David Wurmlinger, Josh Page and Greg Bagay each had two goals for the Little Leps with Anthony Zenobi, David Kost and Justin Koontz also getting goals,. Koontz also had three assists.

BVA goes to Chartiers-Houston Wednesday.

Noon start for Pitt, South Florida

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The South Florida at Pittsburgh game will start at noon ET on Saturday, Oct. 24 and will be televised regionally by ESPN.

The game will be the first of two played at Heinz Field in a 28-hour hour period, with the Vikings and Steelers meeting the following day.

Starting times have not been announced for Pitt's final three home games, against Syracuse on Nov. 7, Notre Dame on Nov. 14 and Cincinnati on Dec. 5.

NFL investigating injury to Davis

BEREA, Ohio (AP) — Cleveland Browns coach Eric Mangini said he's cooperating with the NFL in its investigation into rookie running back James Davis' mysterious season-ending shoulder injury.

On Sunday, ESPN.com reported that Davis was injured during a recent post-practice period for extra work when he was hit by a Browns linebacker. According to the report, witnesses said Davis was not wearing shoulder pads while the unidentified defender who hit him had them on.

League spokesman Greg Aiello said the league is aware of the alleged incident and has been looking into the matter.

49ers release Rossum to add Crabtree

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) — Top return man Allen Rossum has been released by the San Francisco 49ers, creating roster room for newly signed rookie receiver Michael Crabtree.

Rossum was surprised by the move when summoned to a meeting with coach Mike Singletary. He packed a few belongings and left team headquarters.

Trivia answer

Dan Marino, Brett Favre and Dan Fouts.

SPORTS HISTORY

20 Years Ago

Vince Quattro stepped down as Bentworth boys' basketball coach with a 272-100 record in 17 years.

The Minnesota Vikings traded 12 players o Dallas for running back Herschel Walker. Four Viking regulars were in the swap: line-backers Jesse Solomon and David Howard, cornerback Ike Holt and running back Darrin Nelson.

10 Years Ago

Rob Maglicic scored four goals to break the single-season record with 33 in the Cougars' 8-4 win at Bentworth.

Dave Seydor scored for Belle Vernon Area in the Leps' stunning 2-1 loss to previously winless Albert Gallatin.

SPORTS

NHL standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
N.Y. Rangers	6	5	1	0	10	24	12
Pittsburgh	6	5	1	0	10	21	15
Philadelphia	5	3	1	1	7	19	15
New Jersey	5	3	2	0	6	14	15
N.Y. Islanders	4	0	1	3	3	9	13

Northeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	5	3	2	0	6	12	14
Buffalo	3	2	0	1	5	4	3
Boston	5	2	3	0	4	16	19
Montreal	5	2	3	0	4	12	18
Toronto	5	0	4	1	1	12	24

Southeast Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	5	2	1	2	6	15	16
Washington	6	2	2	2	6	22	21
Atlanta	3	2	1	0	4	12	9
Carolina	5	2	3	0	4	13	17
Florida	5	1	4	0	2	10	20

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Chicago	5	3	1	1	7	19	15
Columbus	4	3	1	0	6	12	10
Nashville	4	2	2	0	4	7	11
Detroit	4	2	2	0	4	12	13
St. Louis	4	2	2	0	4	12	12

Northwest Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Calgary	6	4	1	1	9	24	23
Colorado	5	3	1	1	7	17	12
Edmonton	5	3	1	1	7	20	15
Vancouver	5	2	3	0	4	17	17
Minnesota	4	1	3	0	2	10	15

Pacific Division

	GP	W	L	OT	Pts	GF	GA
Los Angeles	5	4	1	0	8	19	15
San Jose	6	3	2	1	7	20	18
Phoenix	5	3	2	0	6	11	7
Anaheim	5	2	2	1	5	13	13
Dallas	4	1	0	3	5	14	14

Two points for a win, one point for overtime loss.

Monday's Games

Colorado 4, Boston 3
Los Angeles 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
N.Y. Rangers 7, Toronto 2
New Jersey 3, Washington 2, SO
Pittsburgh 4, Ottawa 1
Tampa Bay 3, Florida 2
Edmonton 6, Nashville 1
Chicago 6, Calgary 5, OT
Phoenix 1, San Jose 0, SO

Today's Games

Detroit at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
Calgary at Columbus, 7 p.m.
Colorado at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.

Penguins summary

	1	2	3	
Pittsburgh	1	2	1	- 4
Ottawa	1	0	0	- 1

First Period-1, Ottawa, Michalek 1 (Cheechoo, Spezza), 15:59. 2, Pittsburgh, Guerin 2 (Kunitz, Eaton), 16:38. Penalties-Volchenkov, Ott (tripping), :09; Adams, Pit (cross-checking), 9:23; Picard, Ott (high-sticking), 20:00.

Second Period-3, Pittsburgh, Kennedy 3 (McKee, Adams), 6:16. 4, Pittsburgh, Kennedy 4 (Cooke, Adams), 18:02. Penalties-Rupp, Pit (holding), 9:08; Kovalev, Ott (slashing), 15:33.

Third Period-5, Pittsburgh, Staal 3 (Rupp), 9:54. Penalties-Staal, Pit (tripping), 5:09; Gonchar, Pit (slashing), 14:44; Rupp, Pit (roughing), 14:44; Ruutu, Ott (roughing), 14:44; Letang, Pit (cross-checking), 15:17; Kennedy, Pit, double minor (roughing), 17:41; Neil, Ott, double minor (roughing), 17:41; Karlsson, Ott (hooking), 17:41.

Shots-Pittsburgh 9-10-9-28. Ottawa 9-8-14-31.

Power-play-Pittsburgh 0 of 4; Ottawa 0 of 5.

Goalies-Pittsburgh, Fleury 5-0-0 (31 shots-30 saves). Ottawa, Leclaire 2-2-0 (28-24).

Att-17,014 (19,153). T-2:18.

Referees-Chris Ciamaga, Dan O'Halloran. Linesmen-Pierre Champoux, Scott Driscoll.

NFL standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	3	2	0	.600	101	88
New England	3	2	0	.600	104	91
Miami	2	3	0	.400	112	106
Buffalo	1	4	0	.200	77	116

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Indianapolis	5	0	0	1.000	137	71
Jacksonville	2	3	0	.400	97	127
Houston	2	3	0	.400	115	120
Tennessee	0	5	0	.000	84	139

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Cincinnati	4	1	0	.800	101	90
Baltimore	3	2	0	.600	138	97
Pittsburgh	3	2	0	.600	113	98
Cleveland	1	4	0	.200	55	121

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Denver	5	0	0	1.000	99	43
San Diego	2	2	0	.500	101	102
Oakland	1	4	0	.200	49	130
Kansas City	0	5	0	.000	84	138

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Giants	5	0	0	1.000	151	71
Philadelphia	3	1	0	.750	127	86
Dallas	3	2	0	.600	122	98
Washington	2	3	0	.400	73	82

South

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New Orleans	4	0	0	1.000	144	66
Atlanta	3	1	0	.750	102	63
Carolina	1	3	0	.250	57	104
Tampa Bay	0	5	0	.000	68	140

North

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Minnesota	5	0	0	1.000	156	90
Chicago	3	1	0	.750	105	78
Green Bay	2	2	0	.500	104	93
Detroit	1	4	0	.200	103	162

West

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
San Francisco	3	2	0	.600	112	98
Arizona	2	2	0	.500	85	89
Seattle	2	3	0	.400	115	82
St. Louis	0	5	0	.000	34	146

Moday's Game

Miami 31, N.Y. Jets 27

Sunday, Oct. 18

Detroit at Green Bay, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at New Orleans, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Houston at Cincinnati, 1 p.m.
Kansas City at Washington, 1 p.m.
Carolina at Tampa Bay, 1 p.m.
St. Louis at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Arizona at Seattle, 4:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Buffalo at N.Y. Jets, 4:15 p.m.
Tennessee at New England, 4:15 p.m.
Chicago at Atlanta, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Indianapolis, Miami, Dallas, San Francisco

Monday, Oct. 19

Denver at San Diego, 8:30 p.m.

Kris Draper and the Detroit Red Wings will face Buffalo at 7 p.m. on Versus.

Sports dial

Today

Television

2 p.m. - ESPN2 - Ghana vs Hungary, soccer.
7 p.m. - Versus - Detroit at Buffalo, hockey.
8 p.m. - ESPN2 - Arkansas State at Louisiana-Monroe, college football.

High school football

Class AAA

Big Seven Conference

	Con. W	Con. L	Overall W	Overall L
Chartiers Valley	4	0	6	0
Thomas Jefferson	3	0	6	0
West Mifflin	2	1	5	1
Belle Vernon Area	1	2	3	3
Elizabeth Forward	1	3	3	3
Trintty	1	3	1	5
Ringgold	0	3	2	4

Thursday

Thomas Jefferson at Chartiers Valley

Friday

Ringgold at BV Area
Trinity at West Mifflin
Elizabeth at Derry

Keystone Conference

	Con. W	Con. L	Overall W	Overall L
Greensburg Salem	3	0	5	1
Laurel Highlands	2	1	2	4
Uniontown	2	1	3	3
Albert Gallatin	2	2	3	3
Derry	2	2	2	4
Yough	1	3	1	5
Southmoreland	0	3	0	6

Friday

Yough at Uniontown
Laurel Highlands at Albert Gallatin
Southmoreland at Grb. Salem

Class AA

Interstate Conference

	Con. W	Con. L	Overall W	Overall L
Mt. Pleasant	6	0	6	0
Charleroi	5	1	5	1
Jeannette	5	1	5	1
McGuffey	4	2	4	2
Washington	4	2	4	2
Greensburg Central	4	2	4	2
Waynesburg	1	5	1	5
Brownsville	1	5	1	5
South Allegheny	0	6	0	6
East Allegheny	0	6	0	6

Friday

McGuffey at Charleroi
Mt. Pleasant at South Allegheny
Jeannette at Washington
East Allegheny at Waynesburg
Grb. Central at Brownsville

Class A

Tri-County South

	Con. W	Con. L	Overall W	Overall L
Monessen	4	0	4	2
Jefferson-Morgan	3	1	5	1
Beth-Center	3	1	4	2
California	3	1	4	2
Carmichaels	2	2	2	4
Geibel	1	3	2	4
West Greene	0	4	0	6
Mapletown	0	4	0	6

Friday

Jeff-Morgan at Monessen
California at Beth-Center
Mapletown at West Greene
Saturday
Carmichaels at Geibel (Noon)

Black Hills Conference

	Con. W	Con. L	Overall W	Overall L
Clairton	4	0	5	1
Serra	3	1	5	1
Fort Cherry	2	2	4	2
Chartiers-Houston	2	2	4	2
Burgettstown	2	2	3	3
Frazier	2	2	3	3
Bentworth	0	4	1	5
Avella	1	3	2	4

Friday

Clairton at Burgettstown
Avella at Bentworth
Fort Cherry at Frazier
Serra at C-Houston

MLS standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
y-Columbus	13	5	10	49	41	29
Chicago	10	7	11	41	38	34
New England	10	10	8	38	32	37
Toronto FC	9	10	9	36	36	41
D.C.	8	8	12	36	40	42
Kansas City	8	12	8	32	29	37
New York	4	18	6	18	22	45

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	T	Pts	GF	GA
x-Houston	12	8	8	44	36	27
x-Los Angeles	11	6	11	44	34	31
Chivas USA	13	9	5	44	30	25
Seattle	10	7	11	41	33	26
Colorado	10	8	10	40	41	33
FC Dallas	10	12	6	36	47	44
Real SaltLake	9	11	7	34	38	34
San Jose	7	13	8	29	34	46

x-clinched playoff berth
y-clinched conference

Wednesday's Game

New York at Real Salt Lake, 10 p.m.

Saturday's Games

Real Salt Lake at Toronto FC, 4 p.m.
Chicago at New England, 6 p.m.
Columbus at D.C. United, 8 p.m.
Seattle FC at Kansas City, 8:30 p.m.
Colorado at FC Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
San Jose at Chivas USA, 10:30 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 18

Los Angeles at Houston, 3 p.m.

High school football rankings

Pennsylvania high school football rankings from The Patriot-News of Harrisburg for the week of Oct. 12, with school's district in parentheses, followed by the school's record and last week's ranking.

CLASS AAAA

	Sec.	W-L	Last Wk.
1. Bishop McDevitt	(3)	6-0	1
2. North Penn	(1)	6-0	2
3. Gateway	(7)	6-0	3
4. St. Joseph's Prep	(12)	5-1	4
5. McKeesport	(7)	5-1	5
6. La Salle College	(12)	5-1	6
7. Downingtown West	(1)	6-0	8
8. McDowell	(10)	5-1	9
9. Woodland Hills	(7)	5-1	10
10. Pennsbury	(1)	6-0	NR

Honorable mention

Abington (1) 4-1, Bethel Park (7) 5-1, Cardinal O'Hara (12) 6-0, Council Rock South (1) 5-1, Cumberland Valley (3) 5-1, Downingtown East (1) 5-1, Easton (11) 5-1, Father Judge (12) 4-2, Freedom (11) 5-1, Neshaminy (1) 5-1, North Allegheny (7) 5-1, Pittsburgh Central Catholic (7) 4-2, Ridley (1) 6-0, Shaler (7) 5-1, South Western (3) 6-0, State College (6) 5-1, Williamsport (4) 5-1, Wilson (3) 5-1, Upper St. Clair (7) 4-2, York (3) 6-0.

CLASS AAA

	Sec.	W-L	Last Wk.
1. Thomas Jefferson	(7)	6-0	1
2. Selinsgrove	(4)	6-0	2
3. Wilson Area	(11)	6-0	3
4. Manheim Central	(3)	6-0	5
5. Hopewell	(7)	6-0	6
6. Bayard Rustin	(1)	6-0	9
7. Allentown CC	(11)	6-0	10
8. Pottsgrove	(1)	6-0	7
9. Cathedral Prep	(10)	4-2	4
10. West York	(3)	6-0	NR

Honorable mention

Abington Heights (2) 5-1, Bradford (10) 6-0, Chartiers Valley (7) 6-0, Dallas (2) 6-0, Greencastle-Antrim (3) 6-0, Henderson (1) 5-1, Hershey (3) 5-1, Interboro (1) 6-0, North Pocono (2) 5-1, Owen J. Roberts (1) 6-0, Scranton Prep (2) 5-1, Susquehanna Twp. (3) 5-1, West Allegheny (7) 5-1, West Mifflin (7) 5-1.

CLASS AA

	Sec.	W-L	Last Wk.
1. Beaver Falls	(7)	6-0	1
2. Dunmore	(2)	6-0	2
3. Montoursville	(4)	6-0	3
4. Aliquippa	(7)	5-1	4
5. General McLane	(10)	6-0	5
6. West Catholic	(12)	3-2	6
7. Lancaster Catholic	(3)	5-1	7
8. Martinsburg Central	(6)	6-0	8
9. Hickory	(10)	4-1	9
10. Wilmington	(10)	5-1	10

Honorable mention

Bishop McDevitt (12) 6-0, Bok (12) 6-0, Burrell (7) 5-1, Center (7) 5-1, Charleroi (7) 5-1, Forest Hills (6) 6-0, Freeport (7) 5-1, Jeanette (7) 5-1, Karns City (9) 6-0, Keystone Oaks (7) 5-1, Mid-Valley (2) 5-1, Northern Lehigh (11) 5-1, North Schuylkill (11) 6-0, Shady Side Academy (7) 5-1, South Fayette (7) 6-0, Sto-Rox (7) 5-1, Towanda (4) 6-0, Trinity (3) 5-1, Tyrone (6) 5-1, York Suburban (3) 5-1.

CLASS A

	Sec.	W-L	Last Wk.
1. Rochester	(7)	6-0	1
2. Farrell	(10)	6-0	2
3. Bishop McCort	(6)	6-0	3
4. Laurel	(7)	5-1	4
5. Clairton	(7)	5-1	5
6. Steelton-Highspire	(3)	4-1	6
7. Old Forge	(2)	6-0	7
8. Bellwood-Antis	(6)	6-0	8
9. Portage	(6)	6-0	9
10. Serra Catholic	(7)	5-1	10

Honorable mention

Avonworth (7) 5-1, Cameron County (9) 6-0, Clarion (9) 5-1, Conemaugh Twp. (5) 5-1, Mercyhurst Prep (10) 6-0, Mount Union (6) 5-1, North Catholic (7) 4-2, Port Allegany (9) 5-1, Sharpsville (10) 5-1, Springdale (7) 5-1, Upper Dauphin (3) 6-0.

Baseball playoffs

Monday

Philadelphia 5, Colorado 4, Philadelphia wins series 3-1

American League Championship Series

Friday

Los Angeles (Lackey 11-8) at New York (Sabathia 19-8)

Saturday

Los Angeles at New York

Monday

New York at Los Angeles

Tuesday, Oct. 20

New York at Los Angeles

Thursday, Oct. 22

x-New York at Los Angeles

Saturday, Oct. 24

x-Los Angeles at New York

Sunday, Oct. 25

x-Los Angeles at New York

National League Championship Series

Thursday

Philadelphia (Hamels 10-11) at Los Angeles (Wolf 11-7 or Kershaw 8-8), 8:07 p.m.

Friday

Philadelphia at Los Angeles, 4:37 p.m.

Sunday

Los Angeles at Philadelphia, 8:07 p.m.

Monday

Los Angeles at Philadelphia, TBA

Wednesday, Oct. 21

x-Los Angeles at Philadelphia, TBA

Friday, Oct. 23

x-Philadelphia at Los Angeles, TBA

Saturday, Oct. 24

x-Philadelphia at Los Angeles, TBA

PSAC football

West Division

	Conf. W	Conf. L	Overall W	Overall L
Edinboro	4	0	6	1
California	4	0	5	2
Mercyhurst	3	1	4	3
Clarion	3	1	4	3
Slippery Rock	2	2	5	2
Indiana	0	4	3	4
Gannon	0	4	2	5
Lock Haven	0	4	0	6

Saturday

1 p.m. - Mercyhurst at Clarion; Slippery Rock at Gannon; Indiana at Lock Haven
3 p.m. - Edinboro at California

Boys' soccer standings

Class AAA

Section 5

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Peters Township	8	0	0	10	2	1
Upper St. Clair	6	2	0	10	2	1
Canon-McMillan	5	3	0	9	5	0
Moon	3	5	0	6	7	1
Ringgold	2	6	0	7	6	0
Trinity	0	8	0	2	13	0

Today

Ringgold at Peters Township
Canon-McMillan at Moon
Upper St. Clair at Trinity

Class AA

Section 3

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
S'moreland	10	1	0	11	3	0
South Park	9	1	0	12	2	0
BV Area	7	3	1	10	4	1
Th. Jefferson	6	4	1	7	6	1
Elizabeth Fwd.	5	6	0	7	8	0
Steel Valley	3	8	0	4	9	0
Uniontown	2	8	0	2	11	0
Yough	0	11	0	0	12	0

Monday

South Park 5, Steel Valley 0

Today

S'moreland at BV Area
Thomas Jefferson at Steel Valley
Uniontown at Elizabeth Forward
Yough at South Park

Class A

Section 1

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Grb. Central	11	0	0	11	4	0
Trinity Christian	8	3	0	9	4	0
Serra	6	4	0	9	5	0
Geibel	6	5	0	10	5	0
Winch. Thurston	6	4	1	7	5	1
California	4	7	1	7	9	1
South Allegheny	2	9	0	2	11	0
Brownsville	0	11	0	0	15	0

Monday

California 3, South Allegheny 1
Norwin 3, Grb. Central 1

Today

Geibel at Serra
Trinity Christian at Brownsville
Winchester Thurston at Grb. Central

Section 4

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Carlynton	8	0	1	11	1	2
Bentworth	7	2	1	8	6	1
Charleroi	6	3	0	9	4	0
C-Houston	5	4	1	5	8	2
Monessen	2	6	2	4	8	2
Brentwood	1	7	1	2	9	1
Beth-Center	1	8	0	5	9	0

Monday

Beth-Center 6, Serra 1

Today

Beth-Center at Charleroi
Carlynton at Monessen
C-Houston at Brentwood
Avonworth at Bentworth

Girls' soccer standings

Class AAA

Section 5

	League W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Upper St. Clair	9	1	0	9	4	1
Mt. Lebanon	8	1	0	10	3	0
Canon-McMillan	8	2	0	11	5	0
Ringgold	4	7	0	6	9	0
Trinity	3	7	0	5	9	0
Elizabeth Fwd.	3	7	0	4	10	0
West Mifflin	0	10	0	2	12	0

Monday

Ringgold 5, Trinity 0
Upper St. Clair 4, Elizabeth 0
Canon-McMillan 10, West Mifflin 0

Today

South Allegheny at Ringgold
Mt. Lebanon at West Mifflin

Wednesday

Ringgold at South Park
Trinity at Elizabeth
Canon-McMillan at Upper St.Clair
Mt. Lebanon at West Mifflin

Section 6

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
S'moreland	10	0	2	11	1	2
BV Area	10	0	2	12	2	2
Connellsville	8	4	0	9	7	0
Waynesburg	6	6	0	8	8	0
Yough	5	7	0	8	8	0
Laurel Highlands	5	7	0	6	10	0
Uniontown	2	10	0	3	11	0
Albert Gallatin	0	12	0	0	14	0

Monday

BV Area 10, Uniontown 0
S'moreland 5, Yough 0
Laurel Highlands 7, Albert Gallatin 0
Connellsville 1, Waynesburg 0

Wednesday

BV Area at Waynesburg
Yough at Laurel Highlands
S'moreland at Uniontown
Albert Gallatin at Connellsville

Class AA

Section 1

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
South Park	11	0	0	13	1	1
South Fayette	8	1	0	9	4	1
McGuffey	7	3	0	9	6	0
Bentworth	4	6	0	8	8	0
Charleroi	4	7	0	7	9	0
C-Houston	1	8	0	1	13	1
Beth-Center	0	10	0	2	11	0

Monday

Charleroi 4, C-Houston 1
South Fayette 5, Beth-Center 0
South Park 4, McGuffey 0
Bentworth 4, East Allegheny 2

Wednesday

Bentworth at Charleroi
South Fayette at McGuffey

Section 6

	Sec. W	L	T	Overall W	L	T
Mt. Pleasant	9	1	0	12	3	0
Grb. Central	8	2	0	12	3	1
Geibel	8	2	0	10	4	0
Jeannette	4	4	1	6	6	2
Monessen	2	7	1	4	8	1
St. Joseph	1	8	0	3	10	0
East Allegheny	0	8	0	1	10	0

Monday

Geibel 8, Monessen 2
Mt. Pleasant 7, Jeannette 0
Grb. Central 1, St. Joseph 0

Today

Mt. Pleasant at East Allegheny

Wednesday

Grb. Central at Monessen
East Allegheny at St. Joseph
Geibel at Jeannette

Latest Line

BEST BET: Arkansas State is 2-9 vs. the spread its last 11 games. The Red Wolves are a lowly 10-26-1 vs. the spread in their last 37 games following a win against the spread. UL-Monroe is a solid 21-8-1 vs. the spread its last 30 conference games. The Warhawks have gone 10-4 vs. the spread their last 14 games played in the month of October. Take UL-Monroe -1 for another Best Bet winner.

NFL

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Sunday, Oct 18		
Week Six		
WASHINGTON	6 1/2(37)	Kan. City
CINCINNATI	4 (45)	Houston
PITTSBURGH	14 (38)	Cleveland
MINNESOTA	2 1/2(43)	Baltimore
J'VILLE	10 (42)	St. Louis
N. ORLEANS	3 (48)	NY Giants
Carolina	3 1/2 (40)	TAMPA BAY
GREEN BAY	14 (48)	Detroit
Philadelphia	14 (41)	OAKLAND
SEATTLE	2 1/2(47)	Arizona
NY JETS	9 1/2(38)	Buffalo
N. ENGLAND	9 (43)	Tennessee
ATLANTA	4 (46)	Chicago
Monday, Oct 19		
SAN DIEGO	4 (44)	Denver

College Football

Favorite	Points	Underdog
Arkansas St	1	LA-MONROE
Wednesday, Oct 14		
Boise St	10	TULSA
Thursday, Oct 15		
Cincinnati	3	SOUTH FLA
Friday, Oct 16		
Pittsburgh	3	RUTGERS
Saturday, Oct 17		
a-Texas	3	Oklahoma
BOS. COLL.	2 1/2	N. Carolina St
Ohio St	13 1/2	PURDUE
Bowling Gr.	5	BALL ST
MICH. ST	13	N'western
WISCONSIN	1	Iowa
Virginia	4	MARYLAND
CLEMSON	6 1/2	Wake Forest
IOWA ST	3	Baylor
MISSISSIPPI	22	Ala-Birm.
Georgia	7 1/2	VANDERBILT
AUBURN	13 1/2	Kentucky
TEMPLE	10	Army
C. Michigan	7	W. MICHIGAN
AIR FORCE	11 1/2	Wyoming
OHIO	13 1/2	Miami-Ohio
Nevada	9	UTAH ST
PENN ST	16 1/2	Minnesota
W. VIRGINIA	20	Marshall
ALABAMA	17 1/2	S. Carolina
Southern Cal	11	NOTRE DAME
California	3 1/2	UCLA
Houston	19 1/2	TULANE
NEBRASKA	10	Texas Tech
Texas A&M	4	KANSAS ST
Virginia Tech	3 1/2	GA TECH
OKLA. ST	7 1/2	Missouri
E. CAROLINA	18	Rice
BUFFALO	11	Akron
TCU	21	Colorado St
LA TECH	17 1/2	N. Mexico St
Kent St	6	E. MICHIGAN
IDAHO	11	Hawaii
Byu	18	SAN DIEGO ST
ARIZONA	6	Stanford
Illinois	3	INDIANA
SO. MISS	12	Memphis
b-TOLEDO	NL	N. Illinois
CONN.	11	Louisville
Kansas	10	COLORADO
Miami-Florida	15	C. FLORIDA
FLORIDA	24	Arkansas
Navy	7	SMU
ARIZONA ST	5	Washington
Utah	15 1/2	UNLV
FRESNO ST	19	San Jose St
UL-Lafayette	7 1/2	W. KENTUCKY
Troy	9	FLA INTER.
N. TEXAS	1 1/2	Fla Atlantic
Mississippi St	4	MID TENN ST

a-at Dallas, TX.
b-Toledo QB A. Opelt is doubtful.

Baseball

Favorite	Odds	Underdog
Friday, Oct 16		
American League Championship Series		
Best of Seven-Game One		
NY YANKEES	7 1/2-8 1/2	LA

NHL

Favorite	Points	Underdog
COLUMBUS	Even-1/2	Calgary
BUFFALO	Even-1/2	Detroit
TORONTO	Even-1/2	Colorado

Sports moves

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

MIAMI HEAT—Signed G Carlos Arroyo.

PHILADELPHIA 76ERS—Waived G Sean Singletary and F-C Stromile Swift.

FOOTBALL

National Football League

CAROLINA PANTHERS—Signed WR Dexter Jackson to the practice squad. Released WR Jason Chery from the practice squad.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Released RB Chauncey Washington. Re-signed C Duke Preston.

DETROIT LIONS—Placed CB Eric King on injured reserve and DT Mathias Askew on the practice squad injured-reserve list. Signed DT Jervonte Jackson and WR Kole Heckendorf to the practice roster.

GREEN BAY PACKERS—Signed OT Mark Tauscher. Placed CB/KR Will Blackmon on injured reserve.

SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS—Released KR Allen Rossum.

ST. LOUIS RAMS—Placed DT Gary Gibson on injured reserve. Signed WR Tim Carter.

HOCKEY

National Hockey League

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS—Recalled RW Jack Skille from Rockford (AHL).

COLORADO AVALANCHE—Recalled D Ryan Wilson from Lake Erie (AHL).

MONTREAL CANADIENS—Assigned D Yannick Weber to Hamilton (AHL).

SAN JOSE SHARKS—Recalled F Steve Zalewski from Worcester (AHL).

NBA preseason

Monday's Games

Atlanta 107, Charlotte 90
Cleveland 111, Olympiacos 94
Orlando 102, Memphis 83
Oklahoma City 110, Phoenix 105, OT
Milwaukee 96, Houston 92
L.A. Clippers 124, Golden State 117

Today's Games

Boston at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Washington vs. Detroit at Grand Rapids, Mich., 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Orlando vs. New Orleans at Wichita, Kan., 8 p.m.

Youth football

Belle Vernon Midget League

Fayette City	7	14	18	0	- 39
Yough Silver	0	0	0	0	- 0

Fayette City - Josh Hall (5, run) Joe Horvath (PAT)
Fayette City - Matt Brwn (38,run) Joer Horvayh (PAT)
Fayette City - Dwerek Verkleeren (33, run) Josh Hall (PAT)
Fayette City - Drek Verkleeren (20, run)
Fayette City - Joe Horvath (3, run)
Fayette City - Joey Ivan (4, run)

Belle Vernon	0	7	7	0	- 14
Wash. Twp.	13	6	6	7	- 32

Wash Twp. - Zac Conrad (53, pass from Billy Burrows)
Wash Twp. - Jacob Gherardni (8, run) Jacob Gherardini (PAT)
Belle Vernon - Eddie Evans (4, run) Eddie Evans (PAT)
Wash Twp. - Jacob Gheradini (25, pass from Zac Conrad)
Wash Twp. - Jacob Powell (3, pass from Jacob Gherardini)
Belle Vernon - Eddie Evans (54, run) Alex Gillingham (PAT)
Wash Twp. - Jacob Gherardini (20, pass from Zac Conrad) Billy Burrows (PAT)

Yough Green	7	0	6	7	- 20
LaGrange	0	7	0	12	- 19

Yough Green - Eroc Borkovich (1, run) Eric Borkovich (PAT)
LaGrange - Paul Schnur (27, pass from Sam Kovell) Zac Spate (PAT)
Yough Green - Matt Shipley (1, run)
LaGrange - Zac Spate (15, run)
LaGrange - Dalton Naylor (31, run)
Yough Green - Matt Shipley (1, run) Eric Borkovich (PAT).

Standings

East

	W	L	T
LaGrange	6	1	0
Wash Twp.	3	3	1
Yough Silver	0	7	0

West

	W	L	T
Yough Green	5	1	1
Fayette City	5	2	0
Belle Vernon	1	6	0

Saturday

At Yukon

Consolation Game

11a.m. - Yough Silver vs Belle Vernon

Playoffs

1 p.m. - Fayette City vs LaGrange
3 p.m. - Wash Twp. vs Yough Green

Lambert poll

Division I

	W-L	Points
1. Cincinnati	5-0	118
2. Penn State	5-1	107
3. South Florida	5-0	93
4. Pittsburgh	5-1	88
5. West Virginia	4-1	73
6. Boston College	4-2	52
7. Rutgers	4-1	41
8. Connecticut	3-2	36
9. Navy	4-2	34
10. Army	3-3	8
10. Temple	3-3	8

Division II

	W-L	Points
1. Bloomsburg	7-0	100
2. Edinboro	6-1	86
3. California (PA)	5-2	78
4. Bentley	6-1	66
5. Shippensburg	5-2	56
6. East Stroudsburg	5-2	36
7. West Chester	4-3	34
8. Mercyhurst	4-3	22
8. Clarion	4-3	22
10. Slippery Rock	5-2	12
10. S. Conn. State	4-3	12

Big East football

	Conf. W	Conf. L	Overall W	Overall L
Pittsburgh	2	0	5	1
Cincinnati	1	0	5	0
USF	1	0	5	0
West Virginia	1	0	4	1
Rutgers	0	1	4	1
Connecticut	0	1	3	2
Louisville	0	1	2	3
Syracuse	0	2	2	4

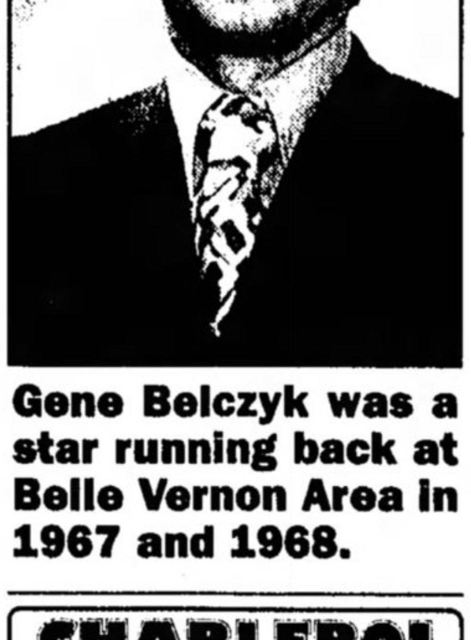
Thursday

Cincinnati at South Florida, 7:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday

Pittsburgh at Rutgers, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

REMEMBER when?



Gene Belczyk was a star running back at Belle Vernon Area in 1967 and 1968.

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SPORTS

Miami's wildcat confuses Jets

Four different Dolphins take snaps on the game-winning TD drive.

MIAMI (AP) — As coach Tony Sparano's Miami Dolphins mounted a comeback bid in the final minutes, even his players on the sideline wondered about the play calling.

It had the New York Jets confused, too.

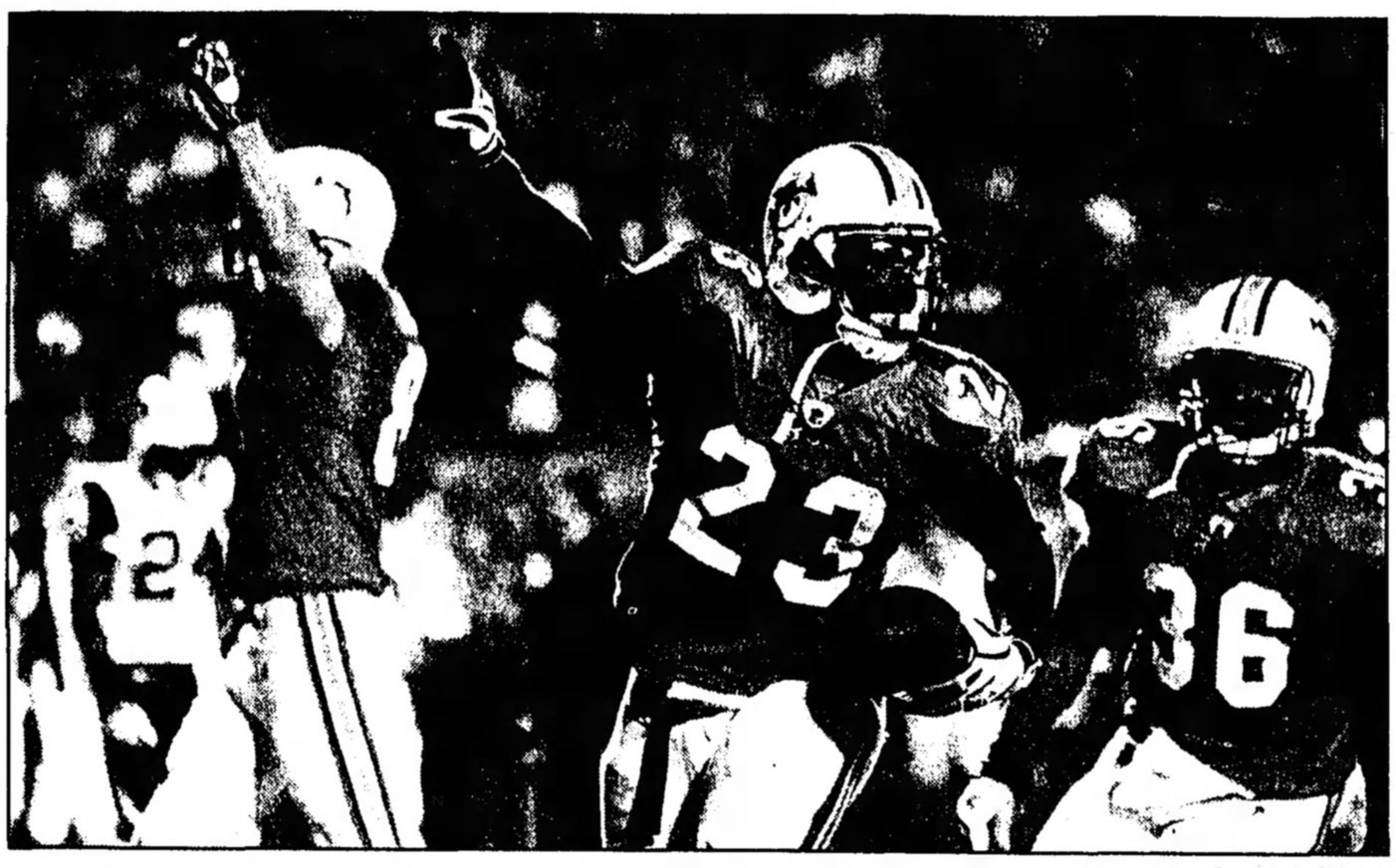
The Dolphins snapped the ball to four players in their game-winning drive Monday night. They ran from the wildcat twice in the final 23 seconds, and Ronnie Brown's 2-yard dash with 6 seconds left beat the Jets 31-27.

Doubt on the Dolphins sideline turned to cheers.

"That's why we are players and not coaches," Miami defensive tackle Jason Ferguson said. "All of us were talking about, 'Why won't you pass it?' Because we got a touchdown, that's why."

Newcomer Braylon Edwards provided a big boost for the Jets, and two fake punts fooled Miami. But the Dolphins had their own bag of tricks and dug into it even on the final drive.

The Dolphins started from their own 30-yard line with 5:05 left, trailing 27-24, and mounted a 13-play drive for the winning score. They snapped to Ricky Williams in the wildcat, and he ran for 15 yards. They brought rookie quarterback Pat White into the game for the first time, and he ran 6 yards for a first down.



Associated Press

Miami's Ronnie Brown (23) celebrates with tight end Joey Jaynos, left, and fullback Lousaka Polite, right, after scoring the wininng touchdown Monday night.

Chad Henne made two third-down completions. And with 10 seconds left and third and goal at the 2, the Dolphins decided to try the wildcat again.

"We were in the huddle and said, 'We've got to score a touchdown. No settling for field goals,'" Brown said.

He took the snap, ran up the middle, found a seam and crossed the goal line with 6 seconds to go.

The resilient Dolphins (2-3) came from behind three times in the fourth quarter, and they're back in the AFC East race after losing their first three games.

"It just goes to show you that to panic is not the answer," Sparano said.

The Jets (3-2) have lost two straight and fell into a tie with New England for first place.

"We're going to play a lot better than we did today," coach Rex Ryan said.

The game became a shootout reminiscent of the Dolphins' Dan Marino days, and filling that role just fine was Henne.

In only his second NFL start, Henne completed 20 of 26 for 241 yards and two touchdowns, with no sacks or turnovers. He threw deep to Ted Ginn Jr. for a 53-yard score to give Miami a 24-20 lead with 10:10 left.

"We made him look like Dan Marino," Jets linebacker Calvin Pace said. "A future Hall of Famer."

The Jets kept answering with Edwards, acquired in a trade with Cleveland last Wednesday. He caught one scoring pass and set up New York's other two touchdowns.

But New York couldn't stop the wildcat, which angered Ryan.

"I used to see all those gimmicks when I was coaching back in college," he said. "It was a complete embarrassment by our defense and by me. I've never been involved in a game like that in my life."

While the Dolphins relied on ball control for much of the game, they also showed a newfound ability to strike quickly.

Ginn beat Darrelle Revis and two other Jets deep, catching Henne's long pass just before crossing the goal line. Williams set up a field goal when he gained 59 yards on a reception, with all the yards coming after the catch.

The Dolphins totaled 413 yards. They had 10 first downs rushing and 13 passing to control the ball for 33 1/2 minutes.

"The biggest thing at this level is keeping it balanced," said Henne, sounding like a veteran. "You want to make sure you keep them off guard the whole time and don't swing one way."

NOTES: Dolphins third-string RB Patrick Cobbs came out of the game in the fourth quarter with a knee injury. ... Jets WR David Clowney also hobbled out of the game in the fourth quarter. ... The Jets' Steve Weatherford ran 26 yards with a fake punt. It was only the second carry of his four-year career.

Steelers (FROM PAGE ONE)

faced an unbeaten team every week.

"Maybe some games last year you knew you were going to win," safety Ryan Clark said. "You kind of relax and just go out there and go through the flow. This year we're not like that. We're not the same team. We're not the team that won the Super Bowl last year. We're the '09 Pittsburgh Steelers and we have trouble in the fourth quarter."

A team that prided itself on winning games late last season has been outscored 55-13 in the fourth quarter, the NFL's worst such differential. These fourth-quarter failures cost the Steelers losses to the Bengals and the Bears, and even the Lions were in position to tie them Sunday before losing 28-20 in a game Detroit trailed by 15 points.

"Teams are coming at us," Clark said. "Teams believe they can win in the fourth quarter."

What might seem surprising is that, despite these self-acknowledged failings, there are numerous positive signs for the Steelers, who return home to play the Browns (1-4) and Vikings (5-0) in their next two games.

Their pass rush, missing most of the season, returned with seven sacks in Detroit, including three by James Harrison and 1 1/2 by LaMarr Woodley, who came into the game without any this season. Rashard Mendenhall ran for 242 yards and three touchdowns the last two games. Ben Roethlisberger is completing 73.8 percent of his passes, and isn't getting as sacked as much as he did the last three seasons. He has been dropped 13 times, or five sacks fewer than at this point last season.

There's more: Hines Ward is on pace to catch more than 100 passes for only the second time in his career. Heath Miller is averaging nearly six catches per game and is being used more than any Steelers tight end in years. All-Pro safety Troy Polamalu, who injured a knee in the Sept. 10 opener and hasn't played since, should return Sunday.

And the Steelers, two games down to Baltimore only two weeks ago, have caught the Ravens (3-2) and are only a game out of the AFC North lead with a home game left against the Bengals (4-1).

Still, the Steelers are largely disappointed with a season in which three games have been decided by 3 points and only one game has had a 10-point margin. On Sunday alone, there were scores of 44-7, 45-10, 41-0, 31-9 and 33-14 in the NFL.

As Roethlisberger said after the Steelers couldn't put Detroit away in the last quarter, "I'll have to be better, the standard is higher for us on offense."

"We'll get it right," Ward said. "Would we like to close teams out? Yes, of course. But when teams are playing the Pittsburgh Steelers, we're the defending champions, and they're going to give us their best."

Even if the NFL hasn't exactly done that to the Steelers. Because three AFC division champions from last season aren't playing well (Titans, Dolphins and Chargers), the Steelers' schedule would appear to be one of its easiest in seasons. It's substantially weaker than last season's, when they played what might have been the roughest schedule any Super Bowl winner took on.

This season, they still have two games left against the Browns, plus one each against the Chiefs (0-5), Raiders (1-4), Packers (2-2) and Dolphins. Unless their fourth-quarter problems intensify, the Steelers conceivably could match last season's 12-4 record merely by playing at their current uneven level.

"We're still searching for the Steelers," linebacker James Farrior said.

Penguins (FROM PAGE ONE)

three-game winning streak.

Fleury remained undefeated in five starts.

The Penguins improved to 4-0 on the road, including the first three games of their current four-game trip that concludes Wednesday against Carolina.

Michalek, acquired from San Jose along with Jonathan Cheechoo in the Dany Heatley trade, teamed up with his former Sharks teammate to give Ottawa a short-lived lead.

Cheechoo took a pass from linemate Jason Spezza and fed Michalek, who cut across the goalmouth to slip the puck around Fleury.

Guerin evened it at 1 just 39 seconds later. The veteran forward put home his own rebound after his initial shot struck Senators defenseman Chris Phillips' skate and bounced out front off the end boards.

"They're a good team," Spezza said. "They're riding high and you get those bounces when you're going that way."

Kennedy got credit for the go-ahead goal 6:16 into the second when his shot struck Ottawa defenseman Erik Karlsson's skate and went into the right side of the net, just beyond Leclaire's vain attempt to kick the puck away with his left pad.

"He's got a great work ethic and he was in on the forecheck and you get bounces when you work hard like that, so he earned that one," Crosby said. "It was a bit of a goofy one but I'm sure he'll take it."

Kennedy increased the lead to 3-1 when he drove a long slap shot past Leclaire at 18:02.

"I just missed it," Leclaire said. "I don't have a whole lot of excuses about it. That's usually a shot that you have to stop."

Staal made it a three-goal margin with his third goal midway through the third.

NOTES: Crosby has yet to score a goal in six regular season games in Ottawa, though he has scored four times in five playoff games at Scotiabank Place. ... Adams assisted on both of Kennedy's goals.

Ryder, Presidents Cup not the same

Stakes weren't as high in the weekend tournament..

By DOUG FERGUSON
AP Golf Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — This had all the trappings of an international incident, at least by golf's standards.

Retief Goosen removed his cap and appeared to be conceding a 3-foot putt. Goosen realized he had the score wrong and the putt meant something, so he moved back to the edge of the green and watched as Justin Leonard missed.

It was all a misunderstanding. No hard feelings. Leonard said so himself, confirming Goosen's good intentions and blaming only himself for a bad putt that cost his team a point.

This was in the opening round of the Presidents Cup.

And if this had taken place in Wales next year at the Ryder Cup? Leonard couldn't contain his laughter.

"You guys," he said to a few reporters, "would have made it a much bigger deal."

It's not a good idea to compare the two cups, even in the aftermath of an impressive U.S. victory. The Ryder Cup and Presidents Cup are nothing alike except for the size of the teams (12 players) and the excess of ceremonies and celebrities.

The golf was spectacular at times, and the Americans have rarely looked this strong. Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson were unbeaten in all five of their matches for the first time in a team competition.

Just don't jump to any conclusions about the Ryder Cup next year. There is no comparison with the cups when it comes to the intensity, scrutiny, pressure and hyperbole. That doesn't make it better, just different.

No one sprayed champagne Sunday afternoon from the clubhouse balcony at Harding Park, and not just because the public course doesn't have a balcony, or even much of a clubhouse.

Retief Goosen

Woods delivered the cup-clinching point and didn't know it, even after U.S. captain Fred Couples told him.

The Presidents Cup once was described as matches between the United States and an International team from Florida. That's no longer true because two International players have homes in Arizona. And while the Presidents Cup features 24 of the world's best players, all but one of them — 18-year-old Ryo Ishikawa of Japan — is a PGA Tour member.

What makes the Ryder Cup so compelling, beyond its 80 years of history, is the pride of one tour (Europe) and the pressure on another tour (United States).

No one handles the spotlight as well as Woods. No other player in his generation has faced more significant shots. Still, one can't help but wonder if he produces better shots at the Presidents Cup because the matches are more about amity than enmity.

Woods delivered the defining moment of this Presidents Cup when he holed a 25-foot birdie putt on the 17th hole, then twirled his club and struck a conductor's pose upon hitting 3-iron from 218 yards into 8 feet for an eagle that was conceded, and a stunning foursomes victory in what turned out to be the pivotal match of the week.

Consider his top highlights from the Ryder Cup:

■ An eagle putt that he knocked across the green and into the water at Valderrama.

■ The pained expression on his face when Mickelson, his partner, hit a tee shot out of play on the 18th hole at Oakland Hills.

■ His caddie dropping a 9-iron into the River Liffey during a singles match at The K Club in Ireland.

To suggest that Woods has finally figured out team play is to get carried away with the results of one cup. He didn't care any less before. He didn't try any harder this time.

"I didn't notice any more intensity," Mike Weir said. "He's always like that."

Couples summed it up beautifully earlier in the week when he said the key to getting points from the world's No. 1 player is to give him a partner who contributes, arguing that two-against-one is not a fair fight, even when Woods is involved.

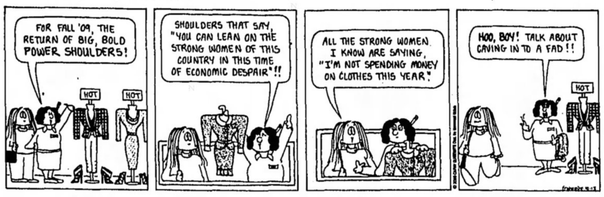
Stricker pulled his share of the load and then some, although NBC Sports analyst Johnny Miller was either playing favorites or not paying attention when he said of Woods, "If he didn't have Steve Stricker as a partner, he would have lost both his matches (Saturday)." Woods carried their foursomes match in the morning, then turned it over to Stricker's awesome putting in the afternoon fourballs.

They became the first Presidents Cup partners to win all four matches, and the first 4-0 team in any cup since 1979.

"It was a blast to play with him," Stricker said. "I felt like I held up my end of the deal, which was a big concern for me coming into this because I knew I was going to play with him. I wanted to make sure I contributed, and I felt like I did at times."

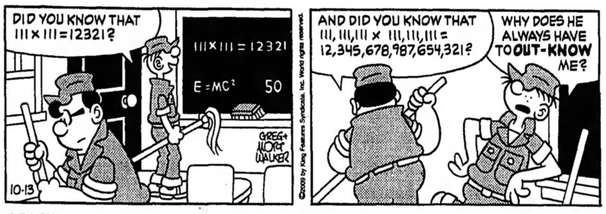
COMICS

CATHY® by Cathy Guisewite



ARLO and JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson

BEETLE BAILEY® by Mort Walker



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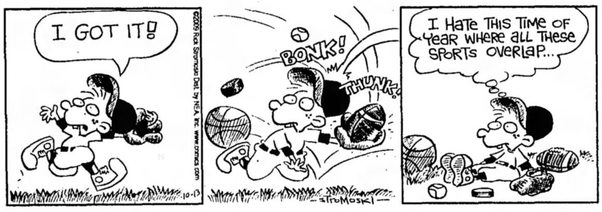
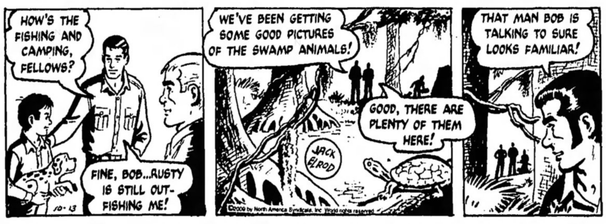
FRANK and ERNEST® by Bob Thaves

SOUP TO NUTZ™ by Rick Stromoski



BIG NATE® by Lincoln Peirce

MARK TRAIL® by Jack Elrod



GARFIELD® by Jim Davis

Classic PEANUTS® by Charles M. Schulz

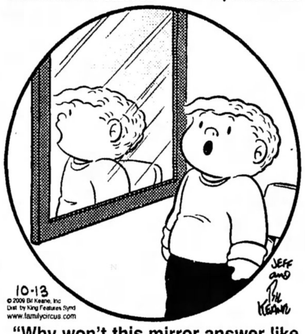
HI & LOIS® by Mort Walker and Dick Browne

BORN LOSER® by Art Sansom

BLONDIE® by Young and Marshall

KIT'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright

THE FAMILY CIRCUS By Bil Keane



"Why won't this mirror answer like in 'Snow White'? All it does is look at me."

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis SudoKu By Dave Green

7	3	1				5	6	2
4								9
	8			3			7	
			3		2			
		2		5		3		
			1		8			
	5			6			2	
8								1
2	1	6				9	5	3

Difficulty Level ★★ 10/13

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Answer to previous puzzle

8	3	1	6	9	7	5	2	4
7	5	2	4	3	8	9	6	1
9	6	4	2	1	5	3	7	8
1	2	9	3	8	6	4	5	7
3	8	5	7	4	2	6	1	9
6	4	7	1	5	9	8	3	2
2	9	8	5	6	1	7	4	3
5	1	3	8	7	4	2	9	6
4	7	6	9	2	3	1	8	5

Difficulty Level ★ 10/13

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THE VALLEY INDEPENDENT CrosswordPuzzle

ACROSS

1 Schmoozes
5 Canine comment
8 — -de-sac
11 Tarzan's title
12 Cakelike cookie
13 Storyline
15 Fiesta music
17 Mrs. Shakespeare
18 Shot meas.
19 Countenance
21 More blustery
24 E-mail server
25 Form 1040 info
26 I, to Hans
27 Badge
30 Other people
32 Incan treasure
33 Deuces
37 Frat Z
38 Bud's comic sidekick
39 Zip
40 Make ripples
43 Feminine principle
44 Sharp turn
47 Bail out
48 Pro votes
50 Back to normal
52 Watchdog org.
53 Toe pain
54 Singer Julio —
59 Agitated state
60 Vane dir.
61 Latin I verb
62 Depot info
63 Hire a lawyer
64 PDQ

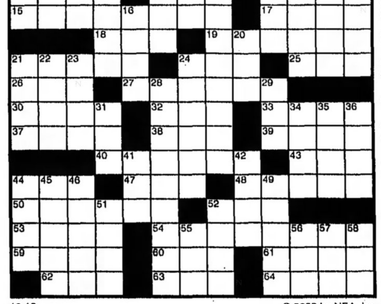
DOWN

1 Mineral find
2 Bond rating
3 Chilly comment
4 Divide the pie
5 The basics
6 Super Bowl roar
7 Flighty
8 Tax pros
9 Humerus neighbors
10 Yearns
14 Adult-to-be
16 Large lot
20 Dot in the Seine
21 Cracker brand
22 Muscle complaint
23 Hone
24 Out of the country
28 Appeases
29 Natural elev.
31 Rustic parents
34 Techniques
35 Fat cat's victim
36 Without, to Pierre
41 Sidekick
42 Dr. Jekyll and Mr. —
44 Changes direction
45 Make amends
46 NASA outfit (hyph.)
49 Inches forward
51 Blues singer — James
52 Hightail it
55 Veld grazer
56 Adherent
57 Film speed ind.
58 Arm the alarm

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	A	S	K	■	T	L	C	■	■	E	V	E
V	I	C	E	■	W	A	L	E	■	E	A	R
P	L	O	Y	■	E	P	I	C	■	R	U	G
■	S	W	I	N	E	■	P	L	A	I	N	S
■	■	■	N	E	T	■	■	A	B	E	T	■
W	E	D	G	E	■	S	A	I	L	■	■	■
O	R	E	■	■	D	E	C	R	Y	P	T	S
W	A	R	P	A	I	N	T	■	■	V	E	T
■	■	■	O	U	S	T	■	D	I	C	E	Y
■	S	P	E	D	■	■	C	U	D	■	■	■
K	E	R	M	I	T	■	L	E	E	C	H	■
I	D	A	■	T	O	M	E	■	A	L	A	I
S	G	T	■	S	T	I	R	■	T	A	L	C
S	E	E	■	■	O	A	K	■	E	P	E	E

Want more puzzles?
Check out the "Just Right Crossword Puzzles" books at QuillDriverBooks.com



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FEATURES

Andrew Russell/For The Valley Independent

Jennifer Bett in her Ross Park Mall store, Becoming Mommy, which has clothes that cater to expectant mothers.

Modern maternity clothes really can be quite stylish

New designs move and expand in sync with expectant mothers' stomachs.

By JoANNE HARROP
For The Valley Independent
jharrop@tribweb.com

Moms-to-be can be stylish, too.

There's a place they can shop where maternity fashions have a trendy, but practical look.

Becoming Mommy: When You Become Two, recently opened a Ross Park Mall location in addition to its Squirrel Hill shop. The designer maternity boutique offers clothes that move and expand in sync with expectant mothers' stomachs.

"We are destined to change the mindset of maternity," says Jennifer Bett of Ben Avon, who owns Becoming Mommy with husband Michael.

"There are so many types of clothing at Becoming Mommy that don't look like maternity because of the fabrics they are made of, but will still grow with you. We have mothers come in with their daughters who say, 'Maternity was not like this when I was pregnant.'

We have friends come in with someone who is pregnant, and they say they like the clothes and often buy something for themselves."

Having choices for your wardrobe during those ninth months, as well as after the baby is born, was the inspiration behind this concept. Jennifer Bett left a career to create a maternity shopping option that wasn't available when she had daughters, Sarah, 9, and Mara, 7.

"I love it there," says Robin Ungar, a mother of five from Squirrel Hill. "You can wear most of the pieces when you aren't pregnant, and I do. I have one piece that I wore as a skirt below my belly when I was pregnant, but when I am not pregnant, I wear it higher. The clothes also are so comfortable because of the great fabrics they are made of."

Most likely after a woman gives birth, she won't automatically go back to prebaby weight, so she needs something for that in-between stage, says Tara Dick from Shadyside, who has two children and one on the way.

"I don't want to wear frumpy and unattractive clothing just because I am pregnant," Dick says

"I want to still be in style and feel good about myself. When you are getting bigger, you don't want to look bigger than you are. The clothes at Becoming Mommy make you feel good."

CALENDAR WATCH

Wednesday

■ Former Monessen Southwestern Railroaders luncheon meeting, Hoss's Steak and Sea House, Rostraver Township, noon.

■ Fayette County Committee of American Legion meeting, Post 499 Point Marion, 7 p.m.

■ Card party, sponsored by Mon Valley Rebekahs 82, Odd Fellows Hall, Gastonville, 7 p.m.

■ American Legion Post 659, Belle Vernon, meeting, club meeting, 7 p.m., legion meeting following.

■ Former Page Steel and Wire employees luncheon meeting, Denny's restaurant, Rostraver Township, noon.

■ Washington Township supervisors meeting, Community Center Building, 7 p.m.

■ Grocery bingo and Chinese auction, St. Paul Anglican Church, 130 W. Main St., Monongahela, 7 p.m.

■ Westmoreland County Area Agency on Aging Caregivers Support Group meeting, 200 South Main St., Greensburg, 1 to 3 p.m.

■ Needle and yarn craft workshop, Mingo Creek County Park office, 10 a.m. to noon.

■ "Courage to be Safe" program, Point Marion Volunteer Fire Company, 6:30 p.m.

VALLEY GRAPEVINE

Food distribution planned Wednesday in California

A California Food Pantry distribution will be held 4 to 6 p.m. Wednesday at the Brownsville ambulance station, lower end of Wood Street in California borough.

Mon Valley Honor Guard plans to meet Wednesday

The Mon Valley Honor Guard and Firing Squad will meet 7 p.m. Wednesday at the James C. Ford Post 949 American Legion, Carroll Township.

Mon City library board will meet Wednesday

There will be a regular meeting of the Monongahela Area Library board of directors 7 p.m. Wednesday at the library.

Eighty Four church plans Saturday dinner

The Pigeon Creek Presbyterian Church, 45 Church Road, Eighty Four, will host a ham and turkey supper 4 to 7 p.m. Saturday.

Takeouts will be available. Proceeds will benefit the Capital Improvement Fund.

Elizabeth K of C plans spaghetti dinner

St. Michael Knights of Columbus, McLay Drive, Elizabeth Township, is sponsoring a spaghetti dinner noon to 6 p.m. Saturday in the social hall. Takeouts will be available.

Monessen group to attend Mass Sunday

Monessen Court 776 Catholic Daughters of the Americas will attend Mass on Sunday at the Chapel of Epiphany of Our Lord Church, Monessen.

Members will recite the rosary in a body starting at 8 a.m.

After Mass, a breakfast meeting will be held in the downstairs social hall.

Donora plans annual Smog-Halloween parade

The Donora Smog Commemorative Committee and the Donora Fire Company will hold the first annual Bill Schempp Memorial Smog-Halloween Parade Oct. 29. Lineup will begin at 5 p.m. at Third and Meldon Avenue.

The parade will begin at 6 p.m. Judges stand will be at Sixth Street and McKean Avenue. Prizes will be awarded following the parade at Donora Smog Central.

The committee and the fire company are requesting family members to represent the following 1948 Smog victims in the parade: Ivan Ceh, Barbara Chinchar, Taylor Circle, John Cunningham, Clifford DeVore, Bernardo Disanzi, Mike Dorincz, Susan Gnora, William Gardner, Milton E. Hall, Emma Hobbs, Ignace Hollowiti, Ruth Jones, Jeannie Kirkwood, Marcel Kraska, Andrew Odelga, Ida Orr, Steve Paulchak, John Poklemba, Mary Pozik, Thomas Short, Peter Starcovich, Perry Stevens, Sawka Trubalis, Alice Ward, George Weisdack and John West.

If you were related to any of these victims, contact Diane Martin at (724) 379-7387.

Training Fido really can be fun

By The Associated Press

Too often, dog training seems like it's all about saying "No."

"People have the knee-jerk assumption that they seek training to fix something," says Victoria Schade, author of "Bonding With Your Dog."

But if all you think about is stopping bad behavior, you miss the real joy of training: being able to talk to the animals. "Training is about changing the way you communicate with your dog. It's giving you a common language," says Schade.

So how do you train your dog by saying "Yes," rather than "No"?

One way is to get involved in canine sports. And the good news is that they're more available to dog owners than ever before.

The classic traditional obedience exercise is to sit, stay, and do nothing silently. For competitors, it's a fascinating challenge and a suspenseful three minutes, but for the rest of us and our dogs it might be fun.

CELEBRITY CIPHER

by Luis Campos

Celebrity Cipher cryptograms are created from quotations by famous people, past and present. Each letter in the cipher stands for another.

Today's clue: F equals P

"O E G L N G L D G J S E Z E G P D I P W Z P G I J L Y D G Z P D G , Z E G V M A Z A F P G S G I . O A N G L M A D P M E Z A L S A A R P L M ." - M J P C I E G G E V

PREVIOUS SOLUTION: "All truths are easy to understand once they are discovered; the point is to discover them." - Galileo Galilei

Pay Tribute To Your

Hometown Heroes

PROUDLY SUPPORTING OUR BRAVE MEN AND WOMEN OF THE VALLEY

A special keepsake section in The Valley Independent published Wednesday, November 11, 2009. Show your support for family members serving or have served in our armed forces.

Size 2.78" x 2.50"

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Deadline November 6th, 5pm

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Monessen, PA 15062
724-684-2612, 724-684-2613
724-684-2602 Fax
email: stodd@tribweb.com
mconte@tribweb.com

Hometown Hero Name: _____

Service Branch _____
Years served _____
Location _____

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Phone _____

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The Mini Page®

Betty Debnam, Founding Editor and Editor at Large

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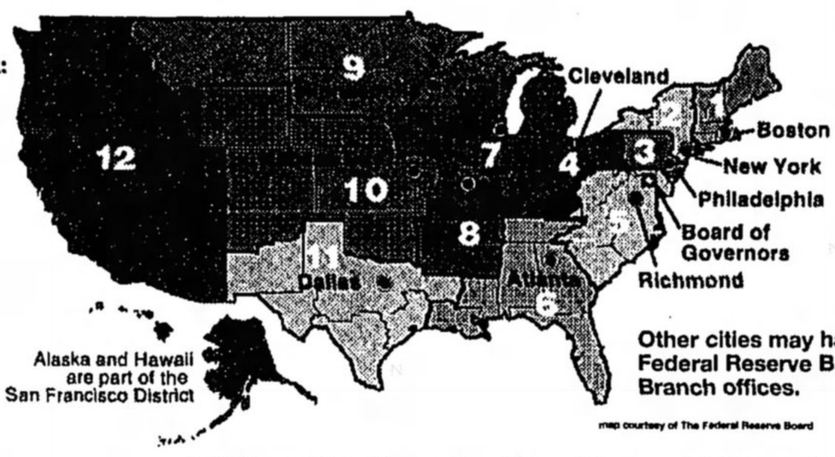
To Protect Our Economy

Banking on the Fed

Twelve cities were chosen as headquarters for the districts of the central bank:

1. Boston – A
2. New York – B
3. Philadelphia – C
4. Cleveland – D
5. Richmond, Va. – E
6. Atlanta – F
7. Chicago – G
8. St. Louis – H
9. Minneapolis – I
10. Kansas City, Mo. – J
11. Dallas – K
12. San Francisco – L



map courtesy of The Federal Reserve Board

The Fed is run by a board of governors, or officers, headquartered in Washington, D.C.

Each district is represented by a letter of the alphabet. Look at a $5 bill. The letter and number left of the portrait (for example, B2) tell you where that bill came from in the Federal Reserve system.

Other cities may have Federal Reserve Bank Branch offices.

What's the Fed?

If you've been following the news about the U.S. **economy***, you know that many Americans are going through tough times.

Some headlines mention people who have lost their jobs or cut back on their spending. Your family may be trying to save money, too.

Some of the news is about the Federal Reserve System, often called "the Fed." This week, The Mini Page explores what the Fed is and its role in protecting our economy.

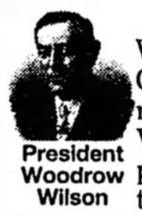
***An economy is a country's system of producing, selling and buying goods and services.**

Attempts at central banking

The idea of a central bank came up again and again during the early days of the United States. Some wanted a central bank to create one **currency**, or paper money in circulation, for all the states. They thought it would help make the economy more secure. Others feared such a bank would give bankers and businesses too much power.

When panics about the stock market caused "runs" on banks by people trying to withdraw all their money, officials knew that some form of central control was necessary.

Federal Reserve Act is law



President Woodrow Wilson

In 1912, President Woodrow Wilson asked Carter Glass, a U.S. representative from Virginia, and economics professor H. Parker Willis to come up with a proposal for a central bank that would divide its powers among different parts of the country. The Federal Reserve Act became law in 1913. It was a **compromise**, or settlement of differences, between the central bank that private bankers wanted and the decentralized bank that much of the public wanted.

Mini Spy . . .

Mini Spy and her friends are visiting a bank vault. See if you can find:

- umbrella
- sailboat
- pencil
- kite
- number 2
- carrot
- squid
- bell
- teapot
- letter L
- surfboard
- key
- heart
- fish
- exclamation point
- word MINI
- man in the moon
- strawberry
- letter E

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Rookie Cookie's Recipe

Pizza Pockets

You'll need:

- 2 whole pita pockets
- 1 (16-ounce) can chopped tomatoes, drained
- 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese
- 1 cup cooked chicken breast, chopped
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper

What to do:

1. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.
2. Cut each pita in half to make four half-circle pockets.
3. In a small bowl, combine the tomatoes, cheese, chicken, salt and pepper. Mix gently.
4. Fill each pocket with the mixture evenly. Place them on a baking sheet and cook for 8 to 10 minutes or until the cheese is melted.

You will need an adult's help with this recipe.

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Meet Frankie Jonas

Frankie Jonas is the voice of Sosuke in the Disney movie "Ponyo." Frankie is the brother of the famed actors and musicians the Jonas Brothers. He appears with his brothers on stage. He also acts in the Disney TV series "Jonas."

Frankie, 9, was born in Ridgewood, N.J. His parents are both musicians. His mother, Denise, is also a special education teacher. His father, Kevin Sr., is a minister.

Frankie lives with his three brothers and parents in Los Angeles. He enjoys playing football. He has his own band, Hollywood Shakeup.

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Fun Fact$ From the Fed

$ In 1775, the Continental Congress issued paper currency. Because the notes were easily **counterfeited**, or faked, the notes lost their value. That's where the phrase "not worth a continental" comes from.

$ Large **denomination**, or value, bills, such as $500, $1,000, $5,000 and $10,000 bills, were printed until 1945. Those that were still circulating were removed in 1969.

$ When commercial banks send extra currency to the regional Fed, 15 percent of the returned bills are destroyed because they're worn out. The Kansas City Fed shreds about $4 million per day!

$ By the end of the Civil War, between one-third and one-half of all U.S. paper money in circulation was counterfeit. In 1865, the U.S. Secret Service was created as part of the Treasury Department, and counterfeiting was greatly reduced.

Today, the Secret Service also protects our government leaders.

$ U.S. currency is made up of 25 percent linen and 75 percent cotton.

$ In 1990, a security thread and microprinting were introduced in $50 and $100 bills to cut down on counterfeiting. Still, 139 U.S. and 18 foreign counterfeiting operations were discovered that year.

Lifespan of a greenback*

The average life of a $1 bill is 21 months. Can you guess the lifespans for these other denominations? Why do you think some bills last longer than others? (**Greenback** is slang for paper money.)

A. 55 months

B. 18 months

C. 24 months

D. 16 months

Answers: A. $50 bill B. $10 bill C. $20 bill D. $5 bill

Gus Goodsport's Report

Supersport: Patrick Willis

Height: 6-0 Age: 24 Weight: 224

He's big, strong and mobile, a helmet-rattling hitter whom opposing NFL running backs aren't looking forward to meeting this fall. Starting his third year with the San Francisco 49ers, Patrick Willis already is one of the best middle linebackers in the NFL.

In 2007 the former University of Mississippi star made a league-leading 174 tackles and was named NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year. In 2008 he registered a club-high 141 stops. Both seasons he was chosen to play in the Pro Bowl. That's why Willis gives opponents the "willies."

At Ole Miss, he won the 2006 Butkus Award that is given annually to the top linebacker in college football. So the 49ers picked Willis — who majored in liberal arts and tackling (355 in his career) — 11th overall in the draft.

Willis turned out to be a hitter who puts the big punch in the 49ers' defense.

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$ Makes Our World Go Round

One way to understand what a Federal Reserve Bank does is to think of it as a "bank's bank." A reserve bank stores and distributes currency and coins to **commercial** banks. (A commercial bank is one that holds accounts for the public and businesses. You may have an account at a commercial bank.)

The reserve bank also processes checks and electronic payments, supervises banks in its area, and conducts research on economic issues.

Where do they get money?

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing supplies the regional reserve banks with paper money. In the United States, our money is called Federal Reserve Notes. These are produced in either Fort Worth, Texas, or Washington, D.C.

Coins come from the U.S. Mint. The coins we use are produced in Denver, Philadelphia, San Francisco and West Point, N.Y.

The dime shown here has a small P under Franklin D. Roosevelt's profile. The P means the dime was minted, or made, in Philadelphia. If you see a D, the coin was minted in Denver.

Image courtesy United States Mint

A regional Fed bank may have many millions of dollars in its storage rooms, or vaults. The money is organized by denomination ($1 bills stored together, $5 bills together, etc.). At the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City, three robots, named Huey, Dewey and Louie, store and retrieve money. They are controlled by a computer.

Photos courtesy Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City

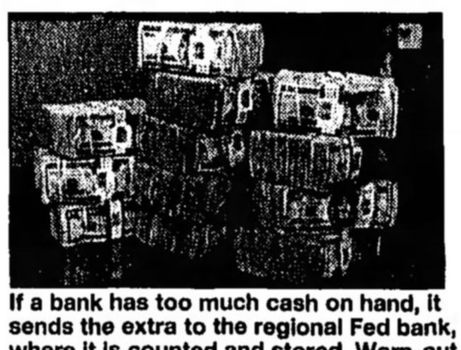
Cash in and out

Commercial banks keep a certain amount of their money in the form of coins and currency. If a bank needs more money, it asks the regional reserve bank to send it more.

Detailed records are kept of the money coming in and going out of the regional Fed banks.

Cash: going but not gone

Americans don't use cash as much as we once did. Instead, we pay for many things electronically, with debit and credit cards.



If a bank has too much cash on hand, it sends the extra to the regional Fed bank, where it is counted and stored. Worn-out currency is shredded. At the Kansas City reserve bank, one machine can count about 100,000 bills every hour.

Look through your newspaper for news about the U.S. economy and the Federal Reserve.

The Mini Page thanks Tim Todd of the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City for help with this issue.

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MIGHTY FUNNY'S Mini Jokes

All the following jokes have something in common. Can you guess the common theme or category?

Mace: What is a robber's favorite dance?
Mabel: The vaults!

Madden: Why did the bank get bored?
Mackenzie: Because it lost interest!

Michelle: What game do banks enjoy?
Mary: Checkers!

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Basset Brown The News Hound's Federal Reserve TRY 'N FIND

Words that remind us of money are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally, and some letters are used twice. See if you can find: FEDERAL, RESERVE, CENTRAL, CURRENCY, BANK, ECONOMY, REGION, COUNTERFEIT, DENOMINATION, COMMERCIAL, SECRET, GREENBACK, MINT, CASH, ROBOT, SHRED, VAULT, ONE, FIVE, TEN, DOLLAR.

THE FED IS HOME TO BIG BUCKS!

T	I	E	F	R	E	T	N	U	O	C	A	S	H	F
E	R	C	E	N	T	R	A	L	W	U	Q	T	J	E
R	E	S	E	R	V	E	K	C	P	R	G	O	B	D
C	G	X	K	C	A	B	N	E	E	R	G	B	V	E
E	I	Y	N	R	A	L	L	O	D	E	H	O	A	R
S	O	L	T	N	D	E	R	H	S	N	J	R	U	A
Z	N	N	K	C	O	M	M	E	R	C	I	A	L	L
F	I	V	E	E	C	O	N	O	M	Y	W	K	T	B
M	Y	N	N	O	I	T	A	N	I	M	O	N	E	D

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Ready Resources

The Mini Page provides ideas for Web sites, books or other resources that will help you learn more about this week's topics.

On the Web:

- www.federalreserve.gov/kids
- www.usmint.gov/kids
- www.moneyfactory.gov/newmoney/main.cfm/learning/fun

The Mini Page Staff

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TV LISTINGS

Wife's suspicions raised by husband's many secrets

Dear **ABBY**

DEAR ABBY: I have been married nearly a year. My husband and I were together for five years before that. I am his fourth wife.

What's bothering me is he gets most of his mail delivered to his mother's — things such as his cell phone bill, his paychecks, etc.

Everything he owns is in storage in another country. He makes all his phone calls from work and never receives any at home.

I saw his credit report. He has taken out loans I know nothing about.

I love my husband with all my heart, but am I right to think a marriage isn't supposed to be this way? I feel he has two lives. — **IN THE DARK IN TENNESSEE**

DEAR IN THE DARK: I don't know how many lives your husband is living, but the answer to your question is no, a marriage is not supposed to be the way yours is. Your husband's behavior is unusually secretive — and when people are secretive, it is usually because they have something to hide.

There are many red flags in your letter, and because of that I'm advising you to talk to an attorney and find out how loans taken out without your knowledge could affect you.

DEAR ABBY: My girlfriend gets weirded out and angry when I hold my kids from a previous marriage in my lap and want her to be close to me at the same time. She says it's "gross and inappropriate."

She acts like I am trying to be sexual with her, but I'm not — I'm just trying to have her near me while I'm sitting on the couch with my children. She says I should only be affectionate with them and her separately.

Am I the one with the problem here, or what? **— DAD IN LAKEWOOD, WASH.**

DEAR DAD: Your girlfriend may feel competitive with your children, or she may have something in her personal history that makes it difficult for her to differentiate between paternal affection and sexual closeness between adults. If you want concrete answers from her, you need to discuss this subject more fully with her so she can explain why she feels the way she does, because it's odd.

DEAR ABBY: Since my daughter left home several years ago, I have become extremely anxious on Sundays. In the afternoons it feels like the walls are closing in on me. I feel so depressed I have to leave the house.

If I go someplace that is open and unconfined, with lots of people around, I feel fine. When I return to my house in the early evening and dote on my pets, I get back to feeling normal.

Abby, some people have said I suffer from "empty nest syndrome." Any thoughts on what I can do about this? — **PHIL IN PHOENIX**

DEAR PHIL: If your daughter left on a Sunday, that may be the reason you become depressed and anxious on that particular day of the week. Or because you are less busy and distracted on Sundays, you become more aware of the fact you are alone. Whether you're experiencing "empty nest syndrome" or "cabin fever" is irrelevant. Discuss your feelings of depression and claustrophobia with a licensed mental health professional so you can be properly diagnosed and receive help for your problem.

(Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.)

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby -- Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447.

TUESDAY EVENING

MOVIES | TALK | NEWS | KIDS | SPORTS

OCT. 13, 2009

	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30	12 AM	12:30	1 AM	1:30	2 AM	2:30
CBS (2) KDKA (7) WTRF (10) WTAJ	(2) KDKA-TV News at Six (7) News (10) WTAJ News at 6	(7) (10) CBS Evening News With Katie Couric (N)	(2) CBS Evening News-Couric (7) Entertainment (10) Inside	(2) The Insider (N) (7) Inside Edition (N) (10) Two and a Half Men	NCIS "Good Cop, Bad Cop" An investigation forces Ziva to dig up a lost chapter of her life. (N)		NCIS: Los Angeles "Search and Destroy" An Iraqi businessman is murdered. (N)		The Good Wife "Fixed" Alicia discovers evidence of possible jury tampering. (N)		(2) KDKA-TV News at 11 (7) News (10) WTAJ News at 11	(:35) Late Show With David Letterman Sienna Miller; Aziz Ansari; Dead by Sunrise. (N)		(:37) The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson Tim Robbins; Adam Goldberg. (N)		(2) (:37) Extra (7) (:37) The Dr. Oz Show (10) (:37) Paid Programming	(2) (10) (:07) Paid Programming	(2) (:37) Paid Programming (7) (10) (:37) Up to the Minute (N)
ABC (4) WTAE (23) WATM	(4) Action News at 6 (23) Deal No	ABC's World News With Charles Gibson (N)	(4) Inside Edition (N) (23) Jeopardy! (N)	(4) Entertainment (23) Wheel-Fortune	Shark Tank A veterinarian's product claims to prevent cancer in pets; virtual arcade. (N)		Dancing With the Stars Elimination. (Live)		(:01) the forgotten "Parachute Jane" A Jane Doe appears to have died from an insulin overdose. (N)		(4) Ch. 4 Action News at 11 (23) News	(:35) Nightline (N)	(12:06) Jimmy Kimmel Live Jack Black; Cobra Starship. (N)		(4) Oprah Winfrey (23) Paid Programming	(23) (:36) RENO 911! Garcia goes under cover.	(4) Joint Health (23) Paid Program	(4) Action News at 11 (23) Paid Prog
NBC (6) WJAC (9) WTOV (11) WPXI	(6) WJAC-TV News at 6 PM (N) (9) News (N) (11) Channel 11 News (N)	NBC Nightly News (N)	(6) Entertainment Tonight (N) (9) (11) Jeopardy! (N)	(6) Who Wants to Be a Millionaire (9) (11) Wheel of Fortune	The Biggest Loser A challenge winner gets to divide the contestants into two teams. (N)				The Jay Leno Show John C. Reilly; Ben Roethlisberger. (N)		(6) WJAC-TV News (9) News (11) Ch. 11 News	(:35) The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien Ice-T; Eddie Izzard; The Flaming Lips. (N)		(:37) Late Night With Jimmy Fallon Andy Samberg; Baaba Maal. (N)		(:36) Last Call With Carson Daly Chris Kattan; Lily Allen. (N)	(:05) Poker After Dark Brad Booth; Allen Cunningham; [illegible]	
FOX (8) WWCP (53) WPGH	(8) Seinfeld (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) The Simpsons (53) My Name Is Earl	(8) That '70s Show (53) Two and a Half Men	(8) My Name Is Earl (53) Seinfeld	Hell's Kitchen (Season Finale) The final dinner service; chef Ramsay chooses the winner. (N)				(8) News (53) Channel 11 News	(8) (:35) My Name Is Earl Helping Earl recover.	(8) (:05) Everybody Loves Raymond (53) Seinfeld	(8) (:35) Seinfeld (53) My Name Is Earl	(8) Star Trek: The Next Generation (53) Frasier	(53) Free Money Free money to Americans.	(8) (:05) Paid Program (53) Foreclosure Profits	(8) (:35) Paid Program (53) Curl Confidence	(8) (:05) Paid Program (53) George Lopez	(8) Paid Prog. (53) House of Payne
(13) WQED	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Nightly Business Report	OnQ	Nova "Hubble's Amazing Rescue" (N) (DVS)		Frontline "Obama's War" (N) (PA) (DVS)		Independent Lens "Herb and Dorothy"		Charlie Rose (N)		OnQ	Smart Travels: Europe	Frontline "Obama's War" (PA) (DVS)		Nova "Hubble's Amazing Rescue" (DVS)	
(19) WPCW	The People's Court (N)		The Office	The Office	90210 "Wild Alaskan Salmon" (N)		Melrose Place "Shoreline" (N)		10 O'Clock News	The Nightly Sports Call	Everybody-Raymond	Malcolm in the Middle	According to Jim	King of the Hill	South Park	Paid Program	Paid Program	Roseanne
(22) WPMY	Simpsons	Family Guy	Simpsons	Family Guy	Smarter	Smarter	Deal No	Deal No	Law & Order: SVU		Star Trek: Next Gener.		Net Millions	Debt Cures	Bernie Mac	My Wife	Half & Half	Half & Half
(40) WPCB	The 700 Club		Focus 4 "Answers"		Degree Life	Master	Joel Osteen	Joni, Frnds	Discovery	Quick Study	Nwswtch	The Place for Miracles		Master	Focus 4		Gaither Homecoming Hour	
(59) WBGN	Punk'd	Sports Talk	Sports Talk		Eye Eye	RENO 911!	Laguna	RENO 911!	** Highway to Hell (1992, Fantasy) Chad Lowe.				Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.
A&E	CSI: Miami "Hell Night"		Criminal Minds		The First 48		Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking	(12:01) The First 48		Parking	Parking	Parking	Parking
ABCFAM	Fresh Prince	Fresh Prince	'70s Show	'70s Show	Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club		Greek "The Dork Knight"		Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Paid Prog.	Get Ripped
AMC	(5:30) *** Field of Dreams (1989) Kevin Costner.				** Wyatt Earp (1994, Biography) Kevin Costner, Dennis Quaid, Gene Hackman. Portrait traces him from boy to lawman.									**** Dances With Wolves (1990, Western) Kevin Costner.				
ANPL	Untamed and Uncut		River Monsters		Weird, True	Weird, True	Weird, True	Weird, True	Lost Tapes	Lost Tapes	Weird, True	Weird, True	Lost Tapes	Lost Tapes	Weird, True	Weird, True	River Monsters	
BBC	Kitchen Nightmares		BBC World News America		You Are What You Eat		Dragon's Den (N)		BBC World News America		You Are What You Eat		Dragon's Den		You Are What You Eat		Dragon's Den	
BET	106 & Park BET's Top 10 Live Mario album release.				The Game	The Game	The Game	The Game	The Game	The Game	The Mo'Nique Show (N)		The Wendy Williams Show		The Game	The Game	The Game	The Game
BRAVO	Real Housewives-Atlanta		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Flipping Out		Flipping Out		Flipping Out (N)		Flipping Out		Million Dollar Listing		Real Housewives-Atlanta		Million Dollar Listing	
CMTV	Extreme Makeover: Home		Smarter	Smarter	The Singing Bee		** National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)				Smarter	Smarter	** National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation (1989)				Videos	Videos
CNBC	Mad Money		Kudlow Report		The NEW Age of Wal-Mart		Executive Vision (N)		The NEW Age of Wal-Mart		Mad Money		The NEW Age of Wal-Mart		Executive Vision		Insanity	Paid Prog.
CNN	Situation Room		Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown (N)		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360				Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360		Anderson Cooper 360	
COM	Last Shot	RENO 911!	Daily Show	Colbert	Scrubs	Scrubs	South Park	South Park	South Park	South Park	Daily Show	Colbert	South Park	South Park	Futurama	Daily Show	Colbert	Carrington
CSPAN	(5:00) House of Representatives				Tonight From Washington						Capital News Today						Today in Washington	
DISC	Cash Cab	Cash Cab	Dirty Jobs Barrel making.		Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs (N)		Ghost Lab "Tombstone"		Dirty Jobs		Dirty Jobs		Ghost Lab "Tombstone"		Cash Cab	Cash Cab
DISNEY	Phineas	Phineas	Wizards	Montana	*** Aladdin (1992, Fantasy)			Phineas	Phineas	Montana	Wizards	So Raven	Life Derek	Cory	Replace	K. Possible	Emperor	Dragon
E!	(5:00) Never Been Kissed		E! News (N)	The Daily 10	Tempted	Kourtney	Take Miami	Take Miami	Take Miami	Girls	Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea	Girls	Lamas	Sexiest		Chelsea
ESPN	SportsCenter (Live)		E:60 (N)		30 for 30 (N)		World Series		World Series		SportsCenter (Live)		Baseball	NFL Live (N)	SportsCenter (Live)		SportsCenter (Live)	
ESPNC	College Football		Bid Wars	Bid Wars	Boxing		PBA Bowling		PBA Bowling		AWA Wrestling		American Gladiators		Boxing: Bailey vs. Smith		Patterson's Greatest Hits	
ESPN2	Horn	Interruption	NFL Live	Football Live	College Football Arkansas State at Louisiana-Monroe. (Live)						30 for 30 (N)		SportsNation		NASCAR	World Series	World Series	
EWTN	Choices	Josemaria	Daily Mass: Our Lady		Mother Angelica-Classic		Religious	Holy Rosary	Threshold of Hope		Christ	Priesthood	Daily Mass: Our Lady		Mother Angelica-Classic		Threshold of Hope	
FNC	Special Report		FOX Report		The O'Reilly Factor (N)		Hannity (N)		On the Record		The O'Reilly Factor		Hannity		On the Record		Glenn Beck	
FOOD	Cooking	Minute	Challenge Bread battle.		Cakes	Cakes	The Next Iron Chef		Chopped (N)		Good Eats	Unwrapped	The Next Iron Chef		Chopped		Good Eats	Unwrapped
FSN	Penguins	Mike Tomlin	College Football Bloomsburg at East Stroudsburg. (Taped)						Profiles	Final Score	Profiles	Final Score	Best Damn Top 50 Special		Final Score	Final Score	Affliction	Toughman
FX	(5:00) ** Snakes on a Plane (2006)			*** Hellboy (2004, Fantasy) Ron Perlman, John Hurt, Selma Blair.					Sons of Anarchy (N)		(:02) Sons of Anarchy		'70s Show	'70s Show	(:01) Sons of Anarchy		Paid Prog.	Hair Club
GOLF	Golf Central	Top 10	Golf Videos	Inside PGA	Big Break	Top 10	Top 10 (N)	Big Break	Big Break Disney Golf (N)		Haney	Golf Central	Top 10	Big Break	Big Break Disney Golf		Haney	Inside PGA
GSN	Newlywed	Catch 21	Deal or No Deal		Family Feud	Family Feud	Newlywed	Catch 21	Millionaire	Lingo	Deal or No Deal		Be a Millionaire		Jeopardy!	Hollywood	Pyramid	Pyramid
HALL	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	I Love Lucy	Touched by an Angel		Touched by an Angel		Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Cheers	Cheers
HGTV	Holmes on Homes		House	House	First Place	First Place	House	Bang, Buck	House	House	Property	First Place	House	Bang, Buck	House	House	Property	First Place
HIST	Declassified "The Taliban"		Modern Marvels		Kennedys: The Curse of Power				The Universe		That's Impossible		(12:01) Kennedys: The Curse of Power				(:01) The Universe	
LIFE	Grey's Anatomy		Grey's Anatomy "Desire"		Medium		Wife Swap		Sherri	Rita Rocks	Will & Grace	Will & Grace	Frasier	Frasier	Sherri	Rita Rocks	Will & Grace	Free Money
MSNBC	The Ed Show (N)		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		The Rachel Maddow Show		Countdown-Olbermann		The Rachel Maddow Show		Hardball		Countdown-Olbermann		The Rachel Maddow Show	
MTV	Disaster	Popzilla (N)	True Life		Gone Too Far "Amy"		The City	The Hills	The Hills (N)	The City (N)	The Hills	The City	Parental	Parental	Parental	Parental	The Hills	The City
NICK	iCarly	Jackson	iCarly	SpongeBob	Malcolm	Malcolm	Hates Chris	Hates Chris	Lopez	Lopez	The Nanny	The Nanny	Malcolm	Malcolm	Lopez	Lopez	Hates Chris	Hates Chris
OXY	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	** The Lake House (2006) Keanu Reeves.				Naughty Kitchen		** The Lake House (2006) Keanu Reeves.				The Tyra Show		The Tyra Show	
PCN	PCN Tours		PCN Call-In (Live)		PCN Primetime - pcntv.com				PCN Evening - pcntv.com				PCN Late Night - pcntv.com				Deutsche Welle News	
PCNC	Pittsburgh Now		News	Healthcare	NightTalk		PCNC News		NightTalk		Pittsburgh	Fedko Fone	PCNC News	PCNC News		Paid Prog.	NightTalk	
SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scn		CSI: Crime Scn		UFC Unleashed		Deadliest Warrior		Deadliest Warrior		Surviving Disaster (N)		DEA		CSI: Crime Scn		Star Trek: Voyager	
SYFY	Fri. the 13th Series		Scare	Scare	Scare	Scare	Scare	Scare	ECW (Live)		*** The Crow (1994, Fantasy) Brandon Lee.				Highlander "Free Fall"		The X-Files "The Walk"	
TBS	MLB Baseball National League Division Series Game 5 — Teams TBA. (If necessary). (Live)							MLB Baseball National League Division Series Game 5 — Teams TBA. (If necessary). (Live)							* A Night at the Roxbury (1998)			Deuce Eur
TCM	(5:30) *** In the French Style (1963)			Mitchell	**** Escape (1940) Norma Shearer, Robert Taylor.				** Escape Me Never (1947, Drama) Errol Flynn.				** Northern Pursuit (1943) Errol Flynn.				*** Torrid Zone (1940)	
TLC	Dress	Dress	Ultimate Cake Off		Cake Boss	Cake Boss	18 Kids	18 Kids	Mermaid Girl		Cake Boss	Cake Boss	18 Kids	18 Kids	Mermaid Girl		Ultimate Cake Off	
TNT	Bones		Bones		Bones		Bones		HawthoRNe		Saving Grace		HawthoRNe		Saving Grace		Cold Case "Willkommen"	
TOON	(5:00) *** Antz (1998)		Johnny Test	Johnny Test	Total Drama	Total Drama	Stoked	6TEEN	King of Hill	King of Hill	Family Guy	Family Guy	Chicken	Hungerforce	Stroker	Awesome	King of Hill	King of Hill
TRAVEL	Anthony Bourdain		Bizarre Foods-Zimmern		Extreme Megastructures		Bizarre Foods-Zimmern		Zimmern's Bizarre World		Zimmern's Bizarre World		Extreme Megastructures		Bizarre Foods-Zimmern		Zimmern's Bizarre World	
TRUTV	Wildest Police Videos		Cops	Cops	Rehab: Party at Hard Rock		Rehab: Party at Hard Rock		Rehab: Party at Hard Rock		Forensic	Forensic	The Investigators		The Investigators		Rehab: Party at Hard Rock	
TVLAND	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	Andy Griffith	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	3rd Rock	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Roseanne	Cosby Show	Cosby Show
USA	Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law & Order: SVU		Law Order: CI		Psych "Let's Get Hairy"		Shadow Man (2006)	
VH1	Behind the Music T.I.		Behind the Music		Behind the Music (N)		2009 Hip Hop Honors (N)				Behind the Music		2009 Hip Hop Honors				Real Chance of Love	
VS.	WrekCage	Sports Take	NHL Hockey Detroit Red Wings at Buffalo-Sabres. (Live)					Hockey	Sports Soup	Sports	Quest	Sports	WEC WrekCage		Sports Soup	Sports	WEC WrekCage	
WE	Golden Girls	Golden Girls	Ghost Whisperer		Secret Lives of Women		Secret Lives of Women		Secret Lives of Women		Secret Lives of Women		Secret Lives of Women		Secret Lives of Women		Secret Lives of Women	
WGN	Becker	Becker	Funniest Home Videos		** Harriet the Spy (1996) Michelle Trachtenberg.				WGN News at Nine (N)		Scrubs	Scrubs	South Park	South Park	Star Trek: Next Gener.		The Bob & Tom Show	
ENC	(:05) ** The Game Plan (2007, Comedy) 'PG'				** 21 (2008, Drama) Jim Sturgess. 'PG-13'				(:05) ** Happy Gilmore (1996) 'PG-13'			(:45) *** Erin Brockovich (2000, Drama) Julia Roberts. 'R'					(:05) ** The Game Plan	
HBO	Dear God	(:45) ** Fred Claus (2007) Vince Vaughn. 'PG'				Amelia: 1st	*** Marley & Me (2008) Owen Wilson. 'PG'				Curb	Wanda Sykes: I'ma Be Me			** The Brave One (2007) Jodie Foster. 'R'			
MAX	Dark Knight	(:35) ** Reality Bites (1994) 'PG-13'			(:15) *** Role Models (2008) Seann William Scott.				** Prince of Darkness (1987) 'R'			Life on Top	(12:15) *** Sex and the City (2008) Sarah Jessica Parker. 'R'					Co-Ed Conf.
SHOW	(:15) American Soldiers: A Day in Iraq (2005) 'R'				** Striptease (1996) Demi Moore. ITV. 'R'				Dexter (ITV)		Californ	Californ	* Hounddog (2007) Dakota Fanning.			(:45) *** The Bank Job (2008) 'R'		
STARZ	88 Minutes	(:40) *** Dan in Real Life (2007) Steve Carell.				(:27) Underworld: Rise of the Lycans 'R'			Starz Inside Zombie films.		(:05) ** Quarantine (2008) 'R'			(:45) Starz Inside Zombie films.			Underworld	
TMC	(:05) ** The Nanny Diaries (2007) 'PG-13'				*** A Mighty Heart (2007) Angelina Jolie. 'R'				Nobel Son (2007, Suspense) Alan Rickman. 'R'				** King of the Ants (2003) 'R'			(:45) ** Forfeit (2007) Billy Burke. 'R'		

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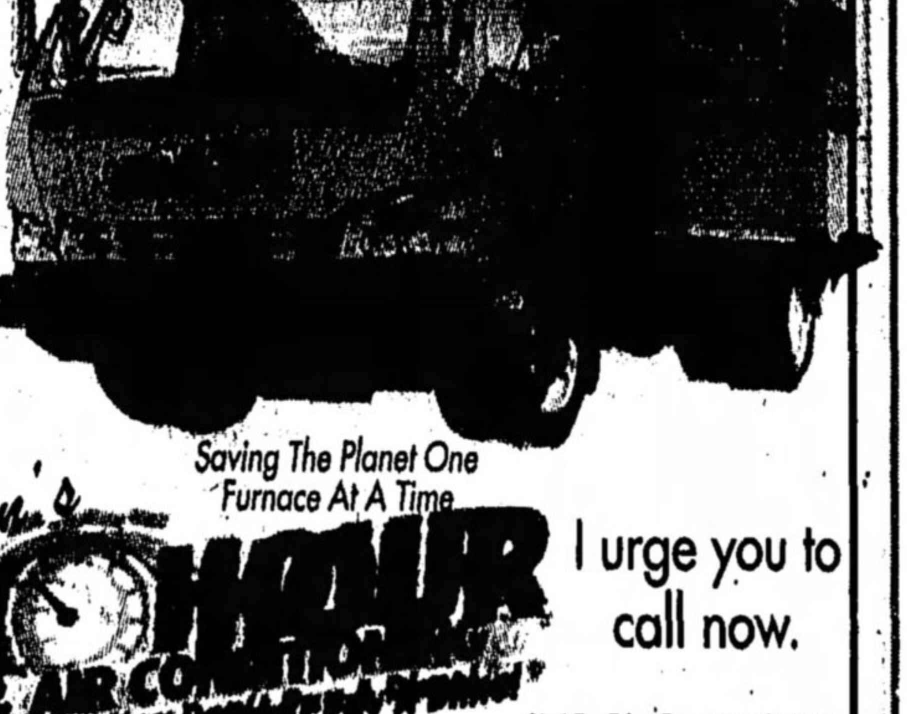

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Jeff Pikulsky/For The Valley Independent

In front, from left, are loan officer Kathy Luci, branch manager Bernadette Rodgers and member service representative Paula Gottheld. In back, from left, are member service representatives Roy Atkinson and Melody Ornot.

Members serve as owners at Corning Credit Union

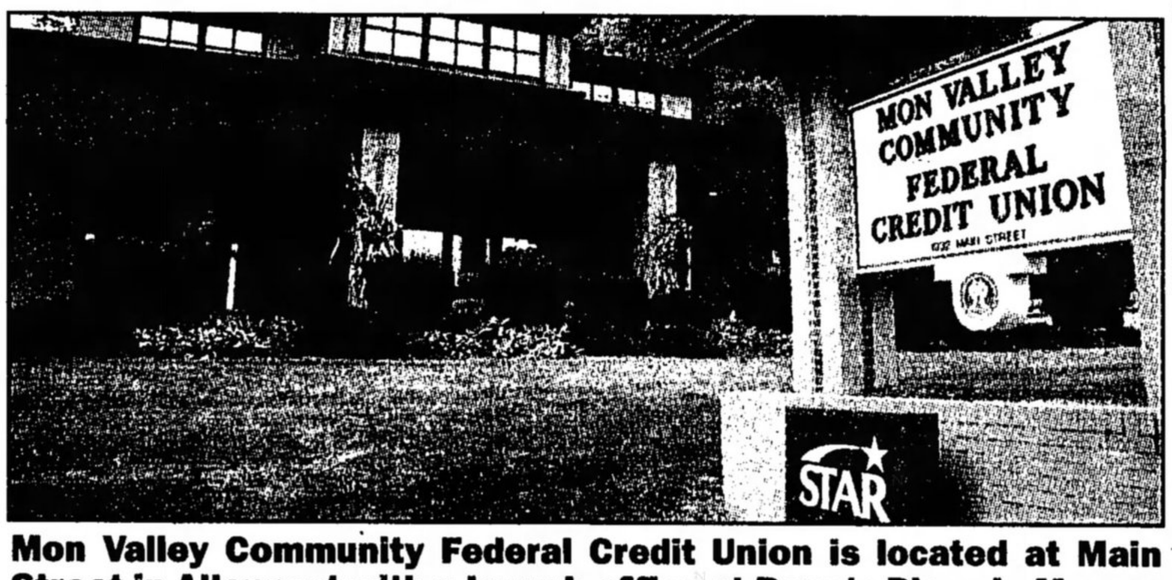
When you become a member at Corning Credit Union, you become an owner of one of the top credit unions in the country. Corning prides itself on offering members individualized service and a personal touch unlike any other financial institution.

CCU offers an array of financial products such as Windfall Checking, savings, loans such as personal, auto, mortgage, and home equity, IRAs, share certificates and free automated services like online banking and bill pay, and so much more.

The local CCU Charleroi Branch is located on 100 8th St., right outside of the main gate to the World Kitchen plant.

Its field of membership has expanded. You are eligible to join if you live, work, worship, shop, or attend school in the borough of Belle Vernon, Donora, Fayette City, Charleroi, North Charleroi, the city of Monessen, or the townships of Rostraver and Washington.

We invite you to stop in and experience the credit union. You'll be able to learn first hand the benefits of membership and why CCU members always leave with a smile.



Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union is located at Main Street in Allenport with a branch office at Peno's Plaza in Monongahela.

Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union

Membership tops 10,000

Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union has expanded to serve more than 10,000 members from a three-county area with assets of more than $137 million.

Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union has two offices to serve its members, one at Main Street in Allenport and a branch office located at Peno's Plaza in Monongahela.

In 2007, Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union merged with Monongahela Valley Hospital Credit Union and has added McKnight medical, Southwestern Pennsylvania Human Services, Monongahela Medical Supply Company and Vale-U-Health to its membership base.

A full-service credit union, Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union is able to offer all financial services to its members, including savings, checking, IRAs, certificates of deposit, direct deposit and Christmas clubs.

The credit union provides all types of loans from personal to mortgages. The credit union has kept its capital requirements three times the minimum requirement during the recent downturn and is one of the strongest and top-rated credit unions in the country.

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724-489-2235 or 800-607-8506
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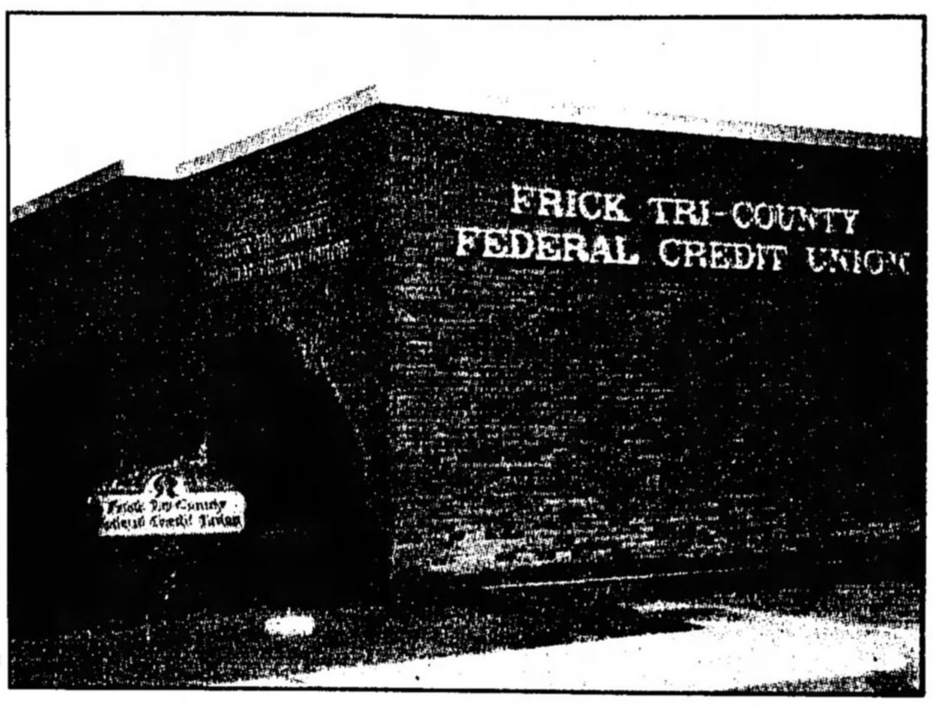
Think you can't join?

Think again.

Our membership has expanded!
If you live, work, worship, or attend school in the Mon Valley Community you may be able to join CCU.



Frick Tri-County Federal Credit Union has locations in Charleroi, Uniontown, Waynesburg and Washington.

Frick Tri-County can help achieve your goals

In an uncertain and fluctuating economy, our financial well-being can often be out of control. Financial institutions whose primary agenda is their bottom line are always willing to charge exorbitant prices for every service and courtesy.

That's why joining Frick Tri-County Federal Credit Union makes so much sense. Frick is a member-owned, not-for-profit, full-service financial institution. It mission is to fulfill all your personal financial needs and help you to achieve your goals. Frick's primary consideration is the personal financial health of its members.

As a member, you are entitled to all the privileges and services we have to offer. Since it is a not-for-profit institution, all financial gains are shared by members in the form of lower interest rates on loans, higher interest rates on savings and reduced costs for services.

Frick's services include:

Share Draft Checking

- No minimum balance.
- Earn dividends for daily balances of $500 or more.
- Your first 50 checks are free with the first order.
- Overdraft protection is available.
- Add to your account through direct deposit.
- Free drafts to seniors over 55 with direct deposit.
- Direct deposit.
- Visa Checkcard available.
- Free online banking.
- Free online e-statements.

Visa Check Card

A credit union Visa Check Card is a convenient, quick and easy way to access your share draft account without a checkbook, to make purchases or obtain cash at automated teller machines (ATMs).

Visa Card

- No annual fee.
- Low annual rate.
- 25-day grace period.
- No cash advance fee.
- No transaction fee.
- Free travel accident insurance.

Other Credit Union Services

- Certificates of deposit.
- Money market accounts.
- Vacation club/ Christmas club.
- Payroll deduction.
- Visa gift cards.
- Home equity and mortgage loans.
- Money orders.

Membership in Frick Tri-County Federal Credit Union is available to employee groups and individuals who live or work in Fayette, Greene and Washington counties. To join, call 1-800-SAY-FRICK or visit one of Frick's four offices:

- Charleroi, 25 State St. in Lower Speers
- Uniontown, 235 Pittsburgh St.
- Waynesburg, 55 Sugar Run Road in the Shop-n-Save Plaza.
- Washington, 1025 Jefferson Ave.

Mon Valley Community Federal Credit Union
"Your Full Service Federal Credit Union" www.mvcfcu.com

We Offer The Following Services:

- Phone Activated Home Banking
- IRA - Conventional & Roth • Share Loans
- Construction Mortgages
- Auto - New & Used
- Boats, ATV's, RV's
- 1st & 2nd Mortgages
- Home Equity
- Home Improvement
- PHEAA School Loans
- Visa
- Shares — Savings Accounts
- Personal Loans & Lines of Credit
- Educational IRA's
- Direct Deposit
- Christmas Clubs
- Travelers Checks
- Money Orders
- Cashiers Checks
- ATM Machine
- MAC Cards
- Debit Cards
- Money Market
- Share Drafts, Checking Accounts
- Share Certificates/ Certificates of Deposit
- Coverdale Savings for Higher Education

We are Lending!

Shares Insured To $250,000 By NCUSIF
IRA's Insured To $250,000

Now offering 2 Convenient Locations To Serve You...

A Safe Haven for all of Your Saving & Borrowing Needs.

1932 Main Street
Allenport, PA
724-326-5632
Fax 724-326-4112

575 Park Way
Monongahela, PA
(Peno's Plaza)
724-258-3080

Now accepting membership for anyone living, working, worshiping or attending school in Washington County, Belle Vernon, North Belle Vernon, Fayette City and Washington Twp.

Servicing Employees of Mon-Valley Hospital & Affiliates.

Credit Union Day Thursday

Celebration will include millions around the world.

More than 177 million credit union members around the world will celebrate International Credit Union Day Thursday to commemorate the credit union movement's history and achievements.

Credit unions are not-for-profit financial co-operatives that provide an effective and viable alternative to for-profit financial institutions for members in 96 countries worldwide.

They exist to serve their members, providing a safe place to save money and access affordable loans.

Since 1948, the event has been celebrated annually on the third Thursday of October.

This year's theme, "Your Money, Your Choice, Your Credit Union," underlines the credit union and cooperative spirit.

YOUR CREDIT UNION™

A History of Community Ownership and Support

Credit unions were based on a simple idea: that people could pool their money and make loans to each other. The first of these cooperatives was organized by a group of workers in Rochdale, England.

In the early 1900s, Edward A. Filene and Roy F. Bergengren, helped establish credit unions in the United States

As time passed, a desire emerged to establish an annual occasion to acknowledge both the important role credit unions currently played in creating opportunity for their members and communities and the achievements of the pioneers who laid the foundation for ongoing credit union success.

It was also considered important to pay tribute to the many people who today continue to demonstrate the commitment that is building new credit unions or sustaining and developing existing savings and credit cooperatives.

The first Credit Union Day

On Jan. 17, 1927, the Credit Union League of Massachusetts in the United States of America celebrated the first official holiday for credit union members and workers. Jan. 17 was chosen because it was the birthday of America's "Apostle of Thrift, Benjamin Franklin" (1706-1790).

Two American credit union movement pioneers believed that Franklin symbolized "the life and teaching embodied in the spirit and purpose of credit unions."

At that time, however, there was so much activity in the development of credit unions in North America that people were either too busy to celebrate or too new to the movement to recognize the significance of their actions.

Thus, after a brief trial period, the practice of Credit Union Day ceased.

The second chance

In 1948, the U.S. Credit Union National Association (CUNA) decided to try a new national Credit Union Day celebration.

CUNA and CUNA Mutual Insurance Society set aside the third Thursday of October as the national day of observance.

By then, many more of America's credit union leaders believed there was a need for an occasion that would bring people together to reflect upon their cooperative history and achievements and to promote the credit union idea across the country.

Credit unions, the state credit union leagues and many of the informal credit union chapters in each state were all encouraged to celebrate the new holiday in some way.

It was to be a time for raising funds for movement causes and to pay homage to the men and women who had dedicated their lives to credit union development.

Sending a message around the world

During the 1950s, CUNA's World Extension Department provided technical assistance and philosophical guidance for credit union development across the globe.

So many countries had established credit union movements by 1964 that CUNA's mission was formally expanded and CUNA International was formed.

New movements joined the credit union family each year, and an increasing number of people were interested in celebrating their uniqueness and unity with a special holiday that could be enjoyed by everyone — regardless of religion, political beliefs, cultural differences or language.

Many credit unions and leagues began to distribute publications; banners, slogans and kits, and Credit Union Day became an international celebration.

By 1971, worldwide credit union progress was so substantial that it was again decided to restructure the movement and to form an additional tier of service.

The World Council of Credit Unions, Inc. (WOCCU) was created and commenced its work of assisting others in the establishment and maintenance of viable credit union movements, wherever the need and desire were expressed.

In Canada, Australia, Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa, Asia, New Zealand, Great Britain and the South Pacific, national and regional credit union federations and confederations were established to support and endorse credit union development.

Community relies on Valley First

Valley First Community Federal Credit Union has been serving members in Monessen and the surrounding communities for 74 years.

Located at 815 Schoonmaker Ave. in Monessen, the credit union was established in 1935 for employees of Pittsburgh Steel in Monessen.

In 1986 and again in 2001, the charter was expanded to provide service to a greater geographic community.

Valley First provides a full line of services, including Visa check cards and credit cards, checking accounts with no minimum balance, regular share savings, attractive money market accounts, savings insurance, signature commercial, shared secured, new and used car, student and home equity loans, loan protection insurance, disability insurance, payroll deduction, $250,000 share deposit insurance — new limit, good for one year through NCUA, NADA Blue Book service, free notary service, travelers checks, money orders, IRAs, share certificates, interest-bearing Christmas clubs, direct deposit for Social Security and pension checks, drive-up ATM, free check cashing, drive-through windows, courteous and confidential service and audio response service.

Visit the credit union in Monessen or at the full-service branch at the Wal-Mart Super Center in Rostraver Township. Also visit the credit union on line at www.Valley1st.org, where you will find convenient access to free home banking and bill payment programs.

Membership and deposits continue to grow year after year through world-class service.

Six correctible financial errors

A recent study conducted by SmartMoney magazine found 70 percent of couples talk about money on a weekly basis. Consider these common missteps couples make.

■ Too many accounts: Simplifying the way money is invested and saved can make it much easier to manage. Having dollars spread out over several financial institutions or investment houses can be downright confusing, especially if the way the finances are handled in the house are one-sided.

■ All or nothing mentality: It's understandable that couples coming together for the first time may be hesitant about the way they handle joint or single accounts. After all, many people have become used to having their own money and the idea of a shared pool of funds can be disconcerting.

■ Debt: The topic of debt is often a heated debate among couples. Again, the "what's yours is yours and what's mine is mine" way of thinking won't work now that you're a couple.

■ Perceptions on spending habits: The adage is that "opposites attract." The same may be true for couples who come together with different ideas on spending and saving. Oftentimes one is labeled the spender and one the saver. In fact, studies show that men and women generally spend the same amount; they just spend differently or in a different time frame.

■ Failing with financial planning: Wise couples will not take money managing day by day, but rather view the bigger picture. It's important to plan for when you will choose to retire, or if one should lose his or her job — or choose not to work any longer for familial reasons.

■ Keeping secrets: One of the fastest ways to create a chasm in a marriage is by keeping secrets about finances. Keeping secrets can range from fibbing about spending to hiding financial accounts. When the discovery is made by the spouse — and it is almost always made — results can be devastating.

VALLEY 1st COMMUNITY F.C.U.
"Value, Integrity, Community."
October 12th - 16th
Valley 1st Community FCU
Credit Union Week
Thursday, October 15th:
Member Appreciation Day
Receive a "Free Gift"
Donuts/Bagels & Coffee
Bring a Guest Day
Tailgate Party with Enterprise Car Sales

815 Schoonmaker Ave.
Monessen
Monday - Friday
8:30AM - 4:30PM
(724) 684-8875
100 Sara Way, Belle Vernon
(Inside WalMart)
Monday - Friday 10AM - 7PM
Saturday 8AM - 1PM
(724) 929-6002
www.valley1st.org

BVA Federal Credit Union
Your Credit Union
Contact
Rachel Willson, Public Relations Director
for more information
724-930-9864
- Free Checking
- No Minimum Balances Required
- Online Banking
- Bill Pay
- Voice Response System
- Real Time Checking
- Direct Deposit
- Competitive and Reasonable Rates
- Car, Mortgage, Personal Loans
- Free Business Checking
- Certificates of Deposit
- IRA's
- Insured Through NCUA $250,000
- Kind, Courteous and Helpful Staff
- Financial Education

Frick Tri-County Federal Credit Union People Helping People
NOW OFFERING PURCHASE & REFINANCE MORTGAGE OPTIONS:

Online Mortgages: It's Easy with Frick Tri-County Federal Credit Union
Get the loan you need faster and more conveniently than anywhere else with our online mortgage process. We've eliminated traditional paperwork and red tape in favor of a few clicks and a few questions.
Start building your wealth today by visiting us at:
www.fricktricountyfcu.org
If you live, work, or worship in Fayette, Greene or Washington Counties, you are eligible to join Frick. We have 4 convenient locations to serve you: Uniontown, Charleroi, Waynesburg, and Washington. Call 1-800-[illegible]

we'll take your job and raise you.

Looking for better pay, benefits, or work-life balance? We're your best bet. Trib Total Media, in partnership with Yahoo! HotJobs, gives you access to high-quality, up-to-date listings so you can find the right one.

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The Valley Independent

TRIB TOTAL CLASSIFIEDS

TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

OFFICE: EASTGATE 19, MONESSEN, PA 15062 | PHONE: 724.684.5200 | FAX: 724.684.2602 | HOURS: MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00AM-5:00PM

jobs & more

DAILY: 2:30PM DAY PRIOR
MONDAY: 4:30PM, FRIDAY
SUNDAY: 11AM, WEDNESDAY

legals

DAILY: 2PM DAY PRIOR
SUNDAY: 11AM, WEDNESDAY

real estate

DAILY: 2:30PM DAY PRIOR
MONDAY: 4:30PM, FRIDAY
SUNDAY: 11AM, WEDNESDAY

garage sale & merchandise

DAILY: 2:30PM DAY PRIOR
MONDAY: 4:30PM, FRIDAY
SUNDAY: 11AM, WEDNESDAY

pets

DAILY: 2:30PM DAY PRIOR
MONDAY: 4:30PM, FRIDAY
SUNDAY: 11AM, WEDNESDAY

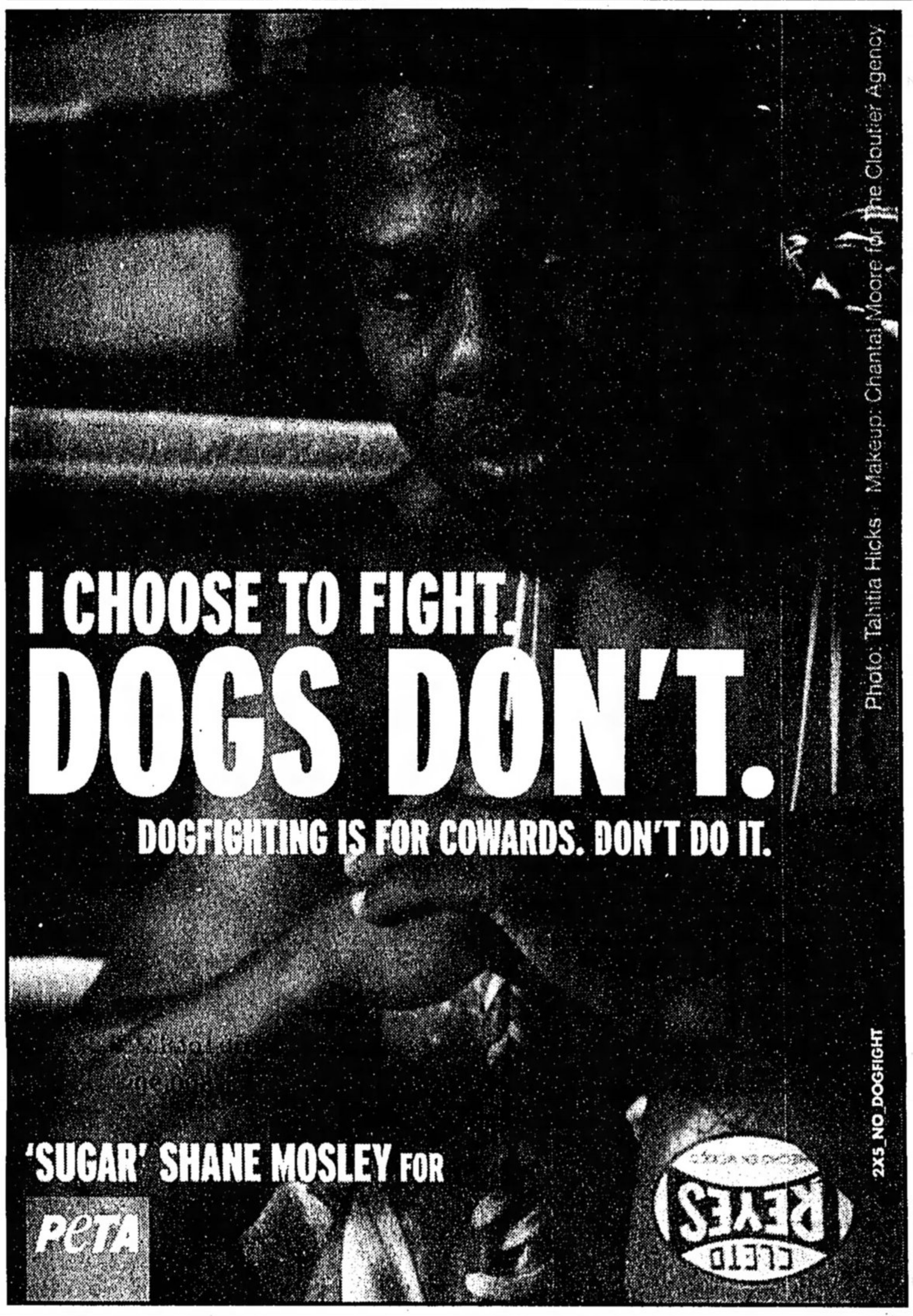
automotive

DAILY: 2:30PM DAY PRIOR
MONDAY: 4:30PM, FRIDAY
SUNDAY: 11AM, WEDNESDAY

PRE-PAY WITH

GENERAL INFORMATION: Trib Total Media reserves the right to edit or reject any advertising copy and determine the correct classification of any advertisement. MISPRINTS: Notice of error should be reported to the Classified Department immediately. Trib Total Media will not be responsible for more than the cost of that part of an ad rendered valueless by the error. CONFIDENTIALITY: Confidential box numbers - we do not disclose the name of any advertiser using our classified pages. Persons answering File Number ads who wish to protect their identity can do so as follows: Place your reply in an envelope addressed to the File Box at the Valley Independent Classified Department, Eastgate 19, Monessen, PA 15062. Include the file number and a list of firms or persons you DO NOT want your reply to reach. If the advertiser is anyone you've listed, we'll destroy your reply. NOTICE: All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin, familial status or handicaps, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination. The paper accepts only recruitment advertising meeting EOE standards. The newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising which is in violation of the law.

VALLEYINDEPENDENT.COM



jobs & more

General
Jobs

IMMEDIATE OPENINGS
Smithton facility seeking Material Handlers, 3 shifts available. Must be able to submit to a drug screening. Good hourly wage.
GREGG STAFFING SOLUTIONS, INC.
NO FEE/EOE
724-853-7710

MH/MR Support Staff
Laurel Highlands Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization that supports persons with MH/MR developmental disabilities, currently seeking full & part-time support staff to work in our community homes in the West Newton, Turkeytown Rd., New Stanton & Elizabeth areas. No experience necessary. Paid training. Must be at least 18 years of age and have valid PA driver's license. Starting rate is $8.63/hour with benefits after 90 days, increase to $8.86/hr. after 6 months. EOE. Call ONLY Mon.-Fri., 9-3pm. 412-825-9141.

MODEL SEARCH
Men, Women, Children, Teens & Infants 6 mos. & up. Rates up to $150/hr.
VAN ENTERPRISES
Apply in person, if under age 18, must be with parents
TUES., OCTOBER 20 at 7:30PM Sharp
Comfort Inn
Rt. 51 & I70
Belle Vernon, PA
PA licensed, bonded since 1973
Not A School

NOTICE TO READERS:
While work-at-home and other informational advertising is often legitimate, we advise readers to fully investigate the background of any company before paying a fee. If an offer sounds "too good to be true", it probably is. Proceed with caution if you are asked to send money or in calling 900 numbers. All phone numbers prefixed by "900" are charged to the caller on a per minute or per call basis. The Valley Independent makes every effort to qualify these charges for the reader. Remember, if you have any doubts, investigate!

NOW HIRING earn $8-$40 per hr. HVAC knowledge helpful but not needed. Must have driver's license & transportation. Helpers, laborers, subcontractors call 412-818-2594

General
Jobs

DEL ROSA'S PIZZA of Monongahela is hiring pizza cooks and drivers. Call Dave at 412-818-9125.

QUALITY CONTROL
Earn up to $100/day. Evaluate retai stores. Training provided. No ex perience required.
Call 877-618-0702

TEAM LEADER
Local company hiring full-time seconc shift Team Leader.

Job Summary: candidate will be responsible for the physical task involved in shipping, receiving, storing & distributing of products, supplies & equipment.
-Candidate should have shipping & receiving knowledge, as well as a positive attitude, ability to multi task, have tow motor experience computer knowledge & organizational skills.
-Candidate should possess a willingness to learn, able to lift heavy & light items & able to work well with others.
-Company offers competitive compensation package.

Please send resume to: P.O. Box 77, California, PA 15419-0577 Attn Human Resources Team Leader Ad.

Medical
Jobs

LPN- part-time/full-time, 30+ hours. Pleasant working conditions. Competitive pay & benefits. Please fax resume 724-379-7203.

Sales
Jobs

OUTSIDE SALES REPS

Full or Part Time
Flexible Hours
Excellent Income Potential

We are looking for aggressive, results-oriented salespeople to join our team to market
Home Delivery of
Tribune-Review Publishing Company
Crew leader, storefront and door-to-door positions are available.
Please call
412-610-6378
9am-5:30pm Monday
8am-3pm Tues. & Wed.
8am-12 Thursday
Closed Friday

Business Opportunity
Jobs

CHARLEROI CARRIER WANTED
- 600's Crest Ave.
- 500's-900's Meadow

30 Papers - Mon.-Sat.
No Collections
CALL 724-684-2648

legals

Estate Notices
Legals

ESTATE NOTICE

Letters testamentary on the Estate of EMORY P. FABIAN late of Westmoreland County, deceased, having been granted by the Register of Wills of Westmoreland County, notice is hereby given to all persons indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and to those having claims against the same to present them without delay to:

Phyllis A. Scott,
Executor
21 Keystone Drive
Monessen, PA 15062

Cheryl Fox, Executor
4945 East Cheery
Lynn Drive
Phoenix, AZ 85018
9/29;10/6,13

Zaperich, Michael
ESTATE NOTICE

Estate of MICHAEL L. ZAPERICH, late of Speers Borough, Washington County, Pennsylvania.

Letters Testamentary upon the above estate having been granted to the undersigned, notice is hereby given to all those indebted thereto to make immediate payment, and to all those having claims or demands to present them for settlement and/or consideration by the undersigned.

Billie Duff Weaver, Executrix
36482 Glasgow Road
Salineville, OH 43945

Richard C. Mudrick
Attorney at Law
300 Fallowfield Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
10/13,20,27

Bid Notices
Legals

Lumber
NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS for the furnishing, "delivering and/or pickup" of "Varied Types of Lumber" for Washington County, Washington, PA 15301 will be received at the Office of the County Controller, 100 West Beau Street, Suite 403, Courthouse Square Office Building, Washington, Pennsylvania 15301, until 11:00 A.M. Prevailing Time, on Wednesday, November 4, 2009 and immediately thereafter will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Purchasing Office, Room 402 of the Washington County Courthouse Square Building. (Late bids are not accepted).

Washington County will not be responsible for any incorrect information obtained from any other source other than from Washington County.

All bids must be submitted as 1 ORIGINAL + 2 COPIES according to the specifications and upon a uniform proposal blank. Please also submit proposal in a .word or pdf file format on compact disc. Specifications and proposal blanks may be picked up at the Washington County Purchasing Office, 100 West Beau Street, Suite 402, Washington, PA 15301 or by submitting a written request to this address. Bidders may fax their written request to the Washington County Purchasing Office at 724-250-6555.

You may obtain the above-mentioned bid proposal from the Washington County web site at www.co. washington.pa.us. Vendors receiving bids from the web site are responsible for checking for contract changes at the web site.

Bid Securities Are Not Required.

SEALED BID
ENVELOPE MUST BE MARKED:

BID: LUMBER
CONTRACT: #110409-2LU

The Washington County Commissioners reserve the right to reject any or all bid proposals.

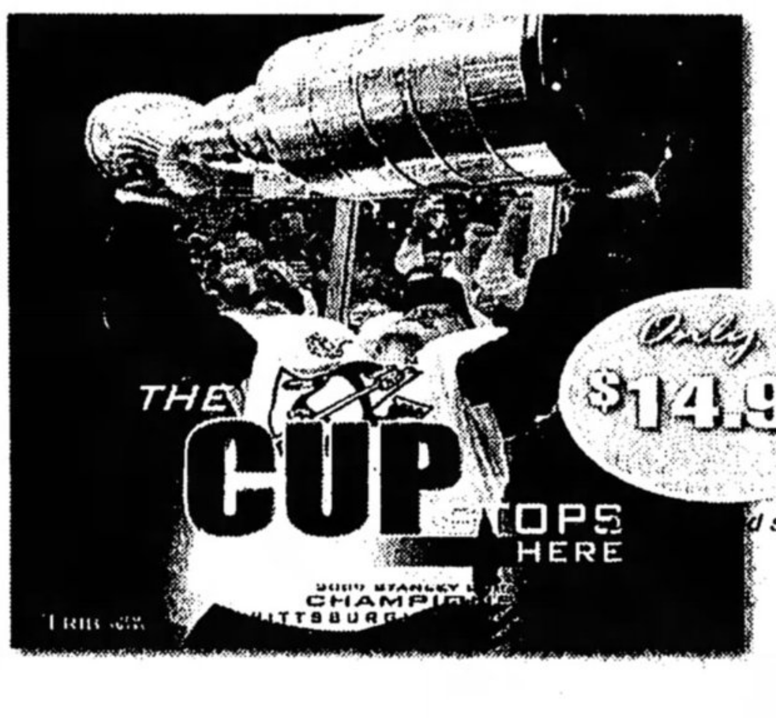
WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

LARRY MAGGI, CHAIRMAN
BRACKEN BURNS
DIANA L. IREY

ATTEST:

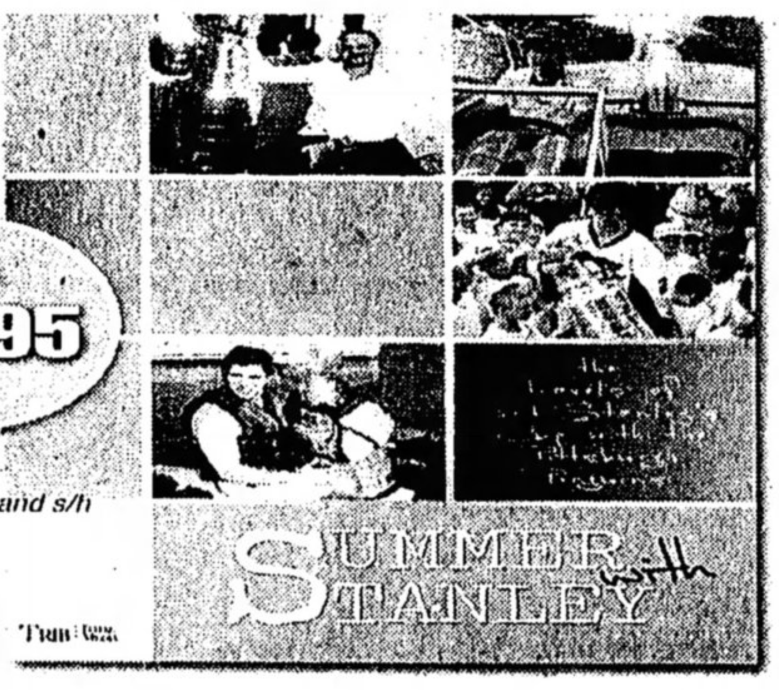
MARY HELICKE
CHIEF CLERK
10/6,13

We have something for every Hockey Fan!

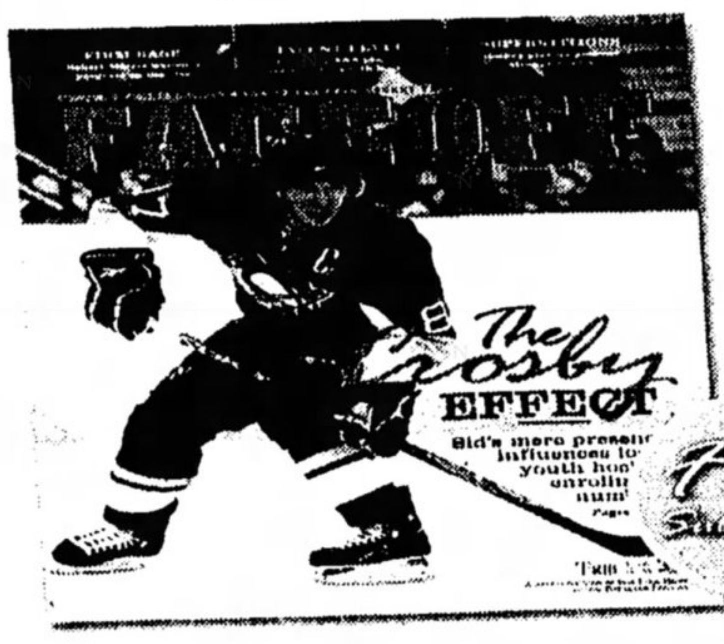


Visit store.TribLIVE.com today for commemorative books, collectibles, front page posters, team gear and more!
We have something for every hockey fan.

Follow the Pens from the Premiere Game in Stockholm to Game 7 of the Final with *THE CUP STOPS HERE*. This limited-edition book features full-color photos, in-depth stories, game highlights, player profiles and much more!



Get an insider's view of hockey's most coveted trophy as it tours the world with your Pittsburgh Penguins in *SUMMER with STANLEY*. Exclusive stories and behind-the-scenes photos of the Pens and the Cup, from the locker room to the victory parade, to Canada, Russia and beyond!



FACEOFF magazine is your source for all things hockey—from the youngest levels of the amateur ranks through the NHL! Each issue will inform, educate and entertain hockey players and fans of all ages.
Sign up today for your FREE subscription!

A joint publication of Trib Total Media and the Pittsburgh Penguins TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

Log on today to purchase books or to subscribe to FACEOFF magazine!

store.TRIBLIVE.com

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TRIB TOTAL MEDIA

Look a little closer.

Advertise now.

The Valley Independent

Stay ahead of the competition
724-684-5200

Shopping for a new Home?

"Use our Classifieds for the right one."

The Valley Independent — Where the Mon Valley makes their choice.

Bid Notices

Legals

NOTICE TO REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION CONTRACTORS

Sealed proposals will be received by the Borough of Donora, 603 Meldon Avenue, Donora, Pennsylvania 15033, until 4:30 P.M. on Thursday, November 5, 2009 for refuse and recycling collection for the Borough of Donora for a three-year period to commence on January 1, 2010. All proposals must be on forms furnished by the Borough of Donora and proposal forms are available at the Borough Administrative Offices on weekdays, from 8:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. All bids must be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the bid price made payable to the Borough of Donora.

Bid proposals will be opened publicly and read aloud at the Regular Work Session Meeting of the Donora Borough Council to be held Thursday, November 5, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Conference Room of the Donora Municipal Complex.

The Borough of Donora reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Jerome A. Stokes
Borough Administrator/Secretary
10/13,17

Service Directory

From Electricity to Grass mowing. We have the pros.

The Valley Independent

Service Directory
30 days pre-paid
$53.01

Bid Notices

Legals

PUBLIC NOTICE
REQUEST FOR
AUDITING SERVICES
CITY OF MONESSEN

The City of Monessen requests proposals from accounting firms to perform auditing services. Professional services are needed for the preparation of an audit of the financial statements for all city and municipal authority funds, including the preparation of a single audit of the City's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. The City proposes to enter into a three (3) year contract for auditing services. Part of the cost for these services will be paid with CDBG funds.

Proposals will be received on or before 4:00 PM prevailing time, November 2, 2009 at the office of the City Clerk, Mon Valley Health Center, Eastgate 8, Monessen, PA 15062.

Detailed information as to the specific services requested and the content of the written proposal are set forth in the Request for Proposals, RFP No. 2009-3 which may be obtained from the City Clerk's Office at the above address.

The following factors will be used to evaluate the proposals and to award a contract.

1. Qualifications of key staff to be assigned to perform the audit services.
2. The firm's and key staff's experience in municipal auditing and CDBG audits.
3. Identification of the firm as a Small Business, Minority Owner, Women Owned or a Section 3 Business Enterprise.
4. Reasonableness of compensation for the requested services.

Proposals may be held by the City of Monessen for a period not to exceed 30 days from the date the proposals are due. For further information, questions, or a copy of RFP No. 2009-3, please contact Rosalie Nickaich, City Clerk, at 724-684-9714.

Anthony Petaccia,
Mayor
The City of Monessen is an Equal Opportunity Employer
10/13

Meeting Notices

Legals

MID MON VALLEY
TRANSIT AUTHORITY

October Meeting Notice

Finance Committee
October 21, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.
Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors
October 29, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

All meetings are held at
Mid Mon Valley
Transit Authority
1300 McKean Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
Unless otherwise noted
10/13

Meeting Notices

Legals

NOTICE OF RESCHEDULED MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the Borough of North Belle Vernon has rescheduled its regular monthly meeting from October 13, 2009 to October 20, 2009 at 7:00 P.M., prevailing time, at the North Belle Vernon Municipal Building, 503 Speer Street, Belle Vernon, Pennsylvania.

Mark E. Ramsler, Esquire
Solicitor
10/13

Government Notices

Legals

CHARLEROI BOROUGH
BUDGET

The Proposed Year 2010 Tentative Budget of the Borough of Charleroi has been prepared and is available for public inspection. It can be seen at the Municipal Building, 4th & Fallowfield Ave., Charleroi, PA. It will be adopted Thursday, November 12, 2009 at a Regular Meeting at 6:00 P.M.

BOROUGH OF CHARLEROI
Roberta Doerfler
Borough Secretary
10/13

EXAMINATION NOTICE
BOROUGH OF CHARLEROI
POLICE CIVIL SERVICE
COMMISSION
POLICE OFFICER
ELIGIBILITY LIST

Applications are now being accepted for the Eligibility for the position of Police Officer under the Civil Service Rules for the Borough of Charleroi. Applications are available at the Borough Secretary's Office, Municipal Building, 4th & Fallowfield Avenue, Charleroi, PA. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday thru Friday. All completed applications must be received by 3:00 p.m. October 30, 2009 at the Borough Secretary's Office and filed with the Police Civil Service Commission. A check for $36.00 made payable to the Borough of Charleroi, is required with the completed application. The fee is for the Written Test which will be given on November 4, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Charleroi Borough Building.

Applicants must be 21 years of age or older, have a high school diploma or GED equivalency certificate, be in good physical condition and be Act 120 Certified and must also have a Municipal Police Training Number. Applications for full-time employment must agree, if successful, to move into the required radius and the required County within one year of the beginning of their employment period.

POLICE CIVIL SERVICE
COMMISSION
Jerome Sambula, Secretary
Charleroi Borough Building
4th & Fallowfield Avenue
Charleroi, PA 15022
10/13,15,19

real estate

Houses/Washington

Real Estate-For Sale

CUTE as a button is this 2-3 bedroom in Charleroi School District. Offers big living room, formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, new carpet, huge Master bedroom & covered front porch. $43,500.

ALWAYS wanted to own your own business? This building maybe right for you. Store front, 2 apts. & garage in Charleroi for $19,900.

BEAUTIFUL 3 bedroom home in Carroll Twp. on level corner lot. Featuring a formal dining room, eat-in kitchen, stainless steel appliances, 2 ½ baths, family room. $194,900.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-483-3004

DONORA- duplex, good rental unit. For sale by owner. Needs minor work. $11,000 or best offer. Call 724-929-2820.

DONORA- rent to own 2 bedroom home, needs work. Little money down, flexible terms. Please call 724-787-5467.

DONORA 2 story, great suburban neighborhood, 4 bedroom, 2 ½ bath, A/C, large kitchen, living room, dining room, family room with fireplace, 2 car garage. $189,900. 412-327-9370.

MONONGAHELA:
4 bedroom brick ranch on 3 acres. Family room & den. Call for appt. $149,921.
2 bedroom ranch in Carroll Farms. Family room, den & gameroom. Close to Y & 43. $170's.
3 bedroom brick split entry. Well maintained. Owner will entertain reasonable offer. $165,000.

Century 21
FRONTIER REALTY
724-348-7470

MONONGAHELA
Beautiful 3 bedroom, wood burning fireplace, living room & dining room, den, large kitchen, full bath, covered porch & deck, large private yard, off-street parking, nice neighborhood. Access to public transportation & boating. Newer furnace & windows with window treatments, new paint & carpet. Ringgold Schools. Only $64,900.
Call 724-366-2091

SPEERS- Charleroi Schools. 3 bed room 1½ bath brick ranch. Integral garage, fenced yard. Reduced to $95,000. To settle estate. Call 724-326-4050 or 724-812-2078.

Houses/Other Areas

Real Estate-For Sale

FREE!
1st Time Home Buyer's Seminar
Wed., Oct. 14th • 7pm-8pm
Mon Valley Career & Technology Center
Speers Industrial Park

LEARN HOW TO:
- Take advantage of special government sponsored 1st time home buyer programs. Buy now with as little as -0- down on USDA financing!
- Speak to credit correction specialists that can correct or clean up smeared credit!
- Find out from a tax advantage why it makes sense to OWN rather than rent!

When you attend this FREE, ONE HOUR SEMINAR, you will also receive a FREE, CONFIDENTIAL CREDIT REPORT, which will help you find out whether you qualify for a home mortgage loan.

Remember, there is NO COST for this seminar, & NO obligation!!

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TRI-COUNTY REALTY
SEATING IS LIMITED
RESERVATIONS REQUIRED!
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Houses/Westmoreland

Real Estate-For Sale

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Michelle 724-986-2888.
KELLER-WILLIAMS
REAL ESTATE
724-222-5500

MONESSEN- 8 Rex Dr. For Sale By Owner. 3 bedroom brick ranch. Taking bids. Appointments only, please call 724-317-8289.

ROSTRAVER
3 bedroom, all brick,
2/3 acre double lot, pool,
walk to all schools,
stunning inside & out. $229,900.
Call 724-929-3325 or see at
www.paopenhouse.com

Houses/Other Areas

Real Estate-For Sale

A HOME READY FOR THE HOLIDAYS
Spacious stone ranch home. Eat-in kitchen, finished basement, 3 full baths, situated on 2 serene acres. $189,900.

MOVE RIGHT IN
Well maintained 3 bedroom Cape Cod. Remodeled kitchen, 2 baths. 2 car garage. Home warranty too! $99,900.

NORTHWOOD REALTY SERVICES
201 ASSOCIATES
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We accept Cash, Check & all Major Credit Cards.
Call to place your ad TODAY!

BELLE VERNON 3 bedroom, 2 story Colonial frame. Large rooms, small low maintenance yard, beautiful woodwork, covered porch, decorative fireplace throughout, 2 full baths and huge walk-up attic could be 4th bedroom, playroom or office! $59,900.

CHARLEROI 3 bedroom, 2 story vinyl with big front porch, beautiful new kitchen, hardwood floors, cozy fireplace in dining room, central air and off street concrete parking pad. Very nice, friendly neighborhood! Bring offers! $59,900.

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1.800.909.Trib

Let a Want Ad $tart ringing your phone.
Call 724-684-2612 or 724-684-2613

Service Directory

Professional Services and Businesses in the Mid-Mon Valley

APPLIANCE PARTS
CHARLEROI SWEEPER vacuums - repairs - parts. 618 Fallowfield Ave. 724-483-3397.

ASPHALT
DRIVEWAY Paving-asphalt sealer coatings. Free est. Jim Lovell. 724-925-6498 or 724-635-0054.

AUTO SERVICE/REPAIRS
GRECO'S Automotive Services. PA Enhanced emission testing, remanufacture used motors & trans. installed, head gaskets, clutches, computer diagnostic, major auto repair. Insured. 724-938-2911, 800-640-2902. ASE Certified

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All Jobs Big & Small I
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CARPETING
CALL Carpeting Unlimited for a personal evening viewing of new flooring in your home. Carpet, hardwood, ceramic, cork, formica & vinyl. Tues. - Wed. -Thurs., 8am - 4pm or by appt. 724-258-4845.

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CLEANS GREAT & dries quickly. NO SOAKING! Call Tri County Chem Dry 724-483-9553.

MILLER'S Magic Carpet Cleaning. Whole house special $139*. Clean 4 areas for only $109. Powerful truck mounted units. 724-483-2370.

Service Directory Ads Work. For Only $59.77 per month. Call 724-684-5200.

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CLEAN SWEEP
cash for your unwanteds.
Buyouts, single items
or entire estates.
Also auction service.
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TECHSET LLC General Construction. No Job Too Small. Free Estimates. Call Lloyd @ 724-736-4770.

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DAVIS Landscaping & Trucking doing exposed & stamped concrete, all block walls, porches, walks, driveways & floors. 14 yrs. craftsmanship. No job too big or too small. 724-258-8939.

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JACK'S ELECTRICAL Contracting. Specializing in older homes. More than 25 years. Free est. 724-489-9109.

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New & old work. Free est., fully ins.
Alan 724-433-2183.

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chain link, wood, vinyl, hand rails & all your fencing needs. Free est. reas. rates. 724-929-3218.

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CORDWOOD - Cut & Split
Firewood Delivered on Dump.
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Perry/Belle Vernon area. We will load.
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vinyl, hardwood, carpeting, ceramic. Ins. Guaranteed. 724-929-4330.

Business Listing Under APPLIANCE PARTS

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Donna Mae Russo, Santi "Sonny" Russo and Ron Matay

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GLASS BLOCK Panels made to fit any opening, installation avail. 724-379-4255.

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35 years experience.
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30 yrs. exp. Int./Ext. Free est. Insured.
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HERK'S HAULING
Stone, Cleanouts, etc. No job too small!
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all your home needs.Int. & Ext. const. & renovations. 724-258-2473.

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LYNCH Landscape Supply.
Topsoil, mulches, mushroom composte, deco stone, river stone, limestone, sand, Keystone, retaining walls & more.
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Belle Vernon
724-929-2177.

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OPEN 24 HOURS
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DAVIS Landscaping & Trucking. Retaining walls, all types concrete, trim, edge, remulching, all types drain work. No job too big or too small. 724-258-8939.

Aerating, thatching, overseeding, leaf cleanup. Free est.
Insd. 10% disc.
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BECK'S Repair all makes of push & riding mowers, rototillers, saws, snow blowers, gas & diesel farm tractors. Pick up & del. 724-258-4140.

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LAWNS & shrubbery cut, trimmed, mulch, garden tilling. Free est. Ins. 724-258-3407.

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Best Rates. Senior Disc.
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LAWN SERVICE Cont.
LEAFS LEAFS LEAFS
fall clean-up, grass cutting, pruning, mulching & shrubs.
Call Pristine Lawn Care
for guaranteed best rates
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John Yurkovich Masonry.
Retaining walls, sidewalks, patios, steps, driveways, chimneys, garages. Fully ins., free est. 724-628-7349.
Cell: 814-853-7069. PA1637

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724-684-8499, 724-929-6869
& Fretz Mini Warehouse 724-684-6602, Monessen. Local moving & storage.

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BOB's - Professional painting at rea. prices. New home const., ptg. & staining. Sr. Cit. Disc. Fully ins. 724-929-6595, 929-9313.

M.V. PAINTING - Int. & ext.
Experienced & Insured. Free est. Will beat any reasonable price. 724-929-1620.

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724-292-9004.

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PLASTERING - New/repair work. Hardcoat/drywall fin. Barry Winters. 724-929-9765.

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Sewers opened, sewer, gas, water line installation, basement water proofing, water tanks. Prof. service.
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QUICK RESPONSE Plumbing. Heat/AC. Registered Master. Certified gas line installer. Expert sewer cleaning. Ins. 866-732-4433 or 724-258-7724

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724-348-4644,
724-379-4962.

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Call Tom Patterson your
Rheem Water Heater Specialist.
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LARRY'S CONTRACTING
reasonable, reliable, new roofs & repairs, gutters cleaned, prompt service.
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ROOFING, siding, windows, doors, additions, garages, porch roofs, decks, gutters.
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MG SEPTIC & Drain Cleaning. Fair Prices. For professional service you won't want to miss! Call Joseph Manack anytime. 724-929-8152.

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724-258-8939.

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3G'S TREES & stump removal. Bucket Truck Service. Free est., fully ins. 724-489-4180, 724-483-6205.

TREE PRO - tree removal specialist. Best deals! Free est. Henry. 724-929-6097 724-797-4944.

TREE SERVICE
TREECISION
Free est., Ins. Danger tree specialist.
724-288-3904 or 724-797-2204.

WINDOWS
DHCS Windows & Doors.
$185 window install.
724-797-1486.

Houses/Areas
Real Estate

MONONGAHELA 3 bedroom, 2 bath, central air, appliances. $500 inc. water & sewage. Call 724-228-3781.

Apartments/Flats
Real Estate-For Rent

BELLE VERNON Lower, (2) 2 bedroom apts., clean & peaceful. No pets. $395 inc. some utilities 724-323-7161.

WASHINGTON TWP. ½ duplex, 2 bedroom, stove, c/a, no pets, non-smoking. $500+ utilities & security. 724-938-3055.

WASHINGTON TWP. ½ duplex, 2 bedroom, stove, c/a, no pets, non-smoking. $500+ utilities & security. 724-938-3055.

Apartments/Washington
Real Estate-For Rent

CHARLEROI- 1 bedroom apartment for rent. $475 per month, all utilities included except electric. Please call 412-583-6829.

CHARLEROI- 1 & 2 bedroom. Includes electric & water, parking. Starting at $325 per month. Call 724-483-0939.

CHARLEROI
1 & 2 Bedroom Apts For Rent
With intercom, wall to wall carpet, washer/ dryer. $350-$500. Security deposit. No pets.:
Call 724-396-1140 or 724-292-1189

CHARLEROI 2 bedroom, new furnace, water and sewage included. No pets. $370 plus security. Call 724-929-4048.

CHARLEROI 2 ½ bedroom, stove, refrigerator. Heat, water, sewage garbage included. $575. Call 724-518-1877.

★ CHARLEROI And DONORA ★
1 & 2 Bedroom Apts. Clean & Secure
Call 412-398-9306

MONONGAHELA 2 bedroom, private, 1st floor, fireplace, back yard. $430 per month plus utilities. Call 724-258-2473.

MONONGAHELA large newly remodeled 2 bedroom with laundry. Immediate occupancy. Call 412-559-2785.

MONONGAHELA- 1 bedroom furnished apartment. $465 per month. Includes utilities. Call 412-889-9671.

MONONGAHELA 2 & 1 bedrooms, 1st & 2nd floor, equipped kitchen, laundry facility, etc., on bus line 724-244-8579.

N.CHARLEROI- 313½ Sheppard St. 2 bedrooms. $425 plus utilities, security deposit & references. No pets. Call 724-518-5440.

Apartments/Westmoreland
Real Estate-For Rent

BELLE VERNON ½ duplex, nice, 2 bedroom, large yard
Call
724-243-3443.

Looking for a new best friend? Look in the Pet Directory!

Autos For Sale
Auto

Houses/Washington
Real Estate-For Rent

MONONGAHELA- 2 bedrooms, 2 full baths, fenced yard. NO PETS $525+ utilities & security. Credit check req'd. 724-258-7230.

Apartments/Other Areas
Real Estate-For Rent

BELLE VERNON & MONONGAHELA
Modern 1 bedroom apartments. Air conditioning, refrigerator, stove, elevator, intercom, laundry, balcony, storage, security. Starting at $375 + utilities.
Call 412-257-0902

Houses/Washington
Real Estate-For Rent

DONORA
2 bedroom house, bath, A/C, yard. Some utilities. Hud accepted.
N. CHARLEROI
3 bedroom, kitchen, living room, 1 ½ bath, A/C. Some utilities. Hud accepted.
724-554-1523

DONORA
3/4 Bedroom
SECTION 8 OK
1/2 duplex, newly renovated. Additional room, kitchen, living room, central air.
Call 724-544-5804

MONONGAHELA
Elegant Executive
Totally remodeled stone home, 4 bedrooms, 3 full baths & (2) 1/2 baths, fireplace, hardwood floors, 2 kitchens (1 w/stainless steel appliances), 3 car garage, large yard, patio, deck with fireplace. Inground pool available. Lease or rent. $1575 mo.+ utilities, security, references.
Call 724-258-4000

MONONGAHELA- 3 bedroom duplex for rent, $525 per month, ALSO: 2 bedroom, $425 per month. Very clean, new carpet. 724-249-3100.

Houses/Westmoreland
Real Estate-For Rent

MONESSEN- 4 room 2 bedroom house for rent. $425 plus utilities & security deposit. No pets. Call 724-684-6638.

MONESSEN- nice 3 bedroom in a peaceful neighborhood. Please contact Great Dane Realty at 724-684-9600.

MONESSEN 2 1/2 bedrooms, back yard, off-street parking. $560 inc water, sewage, garbage. 724-518-1677.

Mobile Home Rentals
Real Estate

2 BEAUTIFUL MOBILE HOMES
Completely renovated
Everything new & upgraded
Rent to Own
Lot Rent, Home Payment, Sewage & Water, Taxes & Insurance
$475 Per Month
Riverview Mobile Estates, Dunlevy
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412-638-9620

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Autos For Sale
Auto

Commercial Real Estate
Real Estate

FAYETTE CITY for rent formerly Skibo's Salon, 1,155 sq. ft. Call for details 412-583-6829.

MONONGAHELA
Warehouse/Office Space
2,200 sq. ft. 10' overhead garage door. Near Rts. 43, 51 & 70. $650 per mo.
----------AND----------
MONONGAHELA
New Offices/Flex Spaces
640-2,200 sq. ft. $425-$1,400. On site parking, close to Rts. 43, 51 & 170.
Call 724-258-4000
www.penoplaza.com

miscellaneous & notices

Cemetery Lots

2 LEVEL LOTS at MV Memorial Park in Well of Samaria section, near main road, across from old school. $899 for both. 724-929-4578.

Lost & Found

FIND SOMETHING?
LOSE SOMETHING?
Place your lost & found ad FREE. Runs 7 days at no charge. Please call 724-684-2612 or 724-684-2613.

Personals/Greetings

$195 DIVORCE COMPLETE
No-Fault Uncontested
Reisman & Davis, Pgh
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-Free Information
Call 1-800-486-4070 24Hrs

ALONE & PREGNANT?
A Confidential Caring Friend
Free Pregnancy Test
LIFELINE OF S.W. PA
Call Hotline 24 Hrs.
724-489-9020

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For the recovery of a 2005 Kawasaki Prairie 360 Quad, taken from residence on Donora Rd., Carroll Twp. Green in color, damages to front & rear rack. Front body panel cracked between headlamps, front brush guard has 2 cuts from wench cable, wench cable hook broken, cable tied pending repairs. Call 724-379-6953.

merchandise

Appliances
Merchandise

GE side-by-side refrigerator/freezer, 22 cu. ft., almond color, ice maker, excellent condition, $100. Call 724-684-6534.

Autos For Sale
Auto

Appliances
Merchandise

MICROWAVE- Sharp carousel. $40. Call 724-929-3742.

TAPPAN gas range, 30 inch, almond color, excellent condition, $100.00. Call 724-684-6534.

Articles
Merchandise

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What this means for you:
NO BILLS
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EASY & IMMEDIATE AD PLACEMENT
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BASEBALL CARD- Willie Mays. $45. Call 724-929-3742.

BASKETBALL GAME 7ft. tall, 2 player Pop A Shot, $75.00. Women's ice skates size 10, new, $20.00. 724-483-1801.

BOYS seasons clothing size 10/12, 2 bags, $10.00
Call
724-483-1801.

CEMENT MIXER- electric, 3 ½ cubic ft. Brand new. $300. Call 724-483-8992.

CHRISTMAS GLASSES- 50, gold trim, $1 each; Swan VASE, beautiful, new $50. 724-929-4980

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 34 sets for outdoor, multi-color, $20.00
Call
724-379-5104.

CHRISTMAS TREE 7 foot, long needles, with stand, $10.00
Call
724-379-5104.

DISHES PYREX white with yellow/gold trim, service for 10, 40 pieces, $15.00. Call 724-379-5104.

DOLL HIGH CHAIRS 2 white, wooden, 1 natural wood, $12.00 each or 3 for $30.00
Call 724-929-8574.

EVIL JESTER COSTUME- child size 8-10, worn once. Party City red/black. $15. 724-258-8393.

FRYER- 4 liter, electronic, never used, $25; men's BOWLING BALL, $5; COFFEE TABLE, nice, $10. Call 724-379-6723.

GRANDFATHER'S CLOCK for sale. $200. Call 724-379-8759.

KEROSENE HEATER- Kero-Sun Directo swivel cabinet. Like new. $50. Call 724-483-4792.

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1.800.909.Trib

Personals/Greetings

Articles
Merchandise

DINNERWARE SET- Corelle service for 8, 52 pieces. All for $50. Call 724-483-5076.

LADIES SUITS size 16, $12.00 each or $30.00 for all 3.
Call
724-929-8574.

LAMP made from old pump, with walnut base, $50.00. Call 724-929-3742.

LAUNDRY TUBS- double $40. Call 724-483-4792

MEN'S jackets dark tan, size medium, new, $30.00
Call
724-929-8574.

MEN'S jackets black leather, size medium, new, $45.00
Call
724-929-8574.

MICROWAVE oven, Amana, good condition, $12.00. Call 724-379-6113.

PICNIC TABLE with umbrella, portable. New, in box. $70. Call 724-929-4980

SEWING OR JEWELRY BOX, wooden, large, free standing, $12.00
Call 724-929-8574.

THOMAS CHOO CHOO TRAIN with track, very good condition, $75.00 or best offer. Call 724-797-8365.

UTILITY CART for lawn tractor. New still in box. $75. Call 724-483-4792

WALL MIRROR- large, gold. Beautiful. $75. Call 724-684-9459.

WEDDING GOWN beautiful Michaelangelo with detachable 12' train, paid $749.00. Sell $250.00. Call 724-684-9459.

WINE GLASSES set of 16, crystal, $50.00
Call
724-684-6534.

Baby Items
Merchandise

BABY MONITORS - 2 sets, $5 each. Call 724-379-6723.

WALKER- Winnie Pooh, like new, $20/offer; nice Graco CAR SEAT $20. 724-379-6723.

Electronics
Merchandise

ANTENNA HDTV- RCA, new. $25. Call 724-929-3742.

Farmer's Market
Merchandise

ANGUS
FREEZER BEEF
All Grain Fed
Call 724-345-3302

Furniture
Merchandise

BED RAIL- mesh, and HEAD BOARD, for single bed. $10 each. Call 724-379-6723.

CURIO- oak, trimmed, very nice. Must see to appreciate. $250. Call 724-929-4980.

Personals/Greetings

Musical Merchandise
Merchandise

CLARINET- Yamaha, needs cleaned & tuned. $25. 724-379-6723.

CLARINET BUNDY like new, $165.00. Call 724-929-4538 or cell
724-875-9235.

FLUTE ARTLEY excellent, $140.00. Call 724-929-4538 or cell
724-875-9235.

TRUMPET case, accessories, all perfect condition, $150.00. Call 724-929-4538 or cell
724-875-9235.

Sporting/Exercise Equipment
Merchandise

LADIES GOLF CLUBS right hand with bag, $100.00
Call
724-684-6534.

Wanted To Buy
Merchandise

BUYING Any 1970's 1980's BMX Bikes, GT, Haro, Hutch, Mongoose, Schwinn, Skyway, Etc. Parts Anything!! Call James 724-989-6109

pets directory

Lost & Found
Pets

FOUND female black Lab mix dog, has collar, vicinity Ridge Road, Belle Vernon.
Call 724-328-6940.

FOUND small brown dog, vicinity New Eagle area.
Call
724-258-2334.

outdoor directory

Boats & More
Outdoor

18' MARK TWAIN Tri-haul 140 HP I/O Merc Cruiser, ran good. $1,136.00 330-319-5860.

Race Cars
Outdoor

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NO STAMPS
EASY & IMMEDIATE AD PLACEMENT
We accept Cash, Check & all Major Credit Cards
Call to place your ad TODAY!

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Auto

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USED AUTO PARTS
At Affordable Prices
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MONONGAHELA
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Autos For Sale
Auto

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MONONGAHELA
FREE PICK-UP
Paying $50 to $75
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1-800-954-3553

R&M AUTO SALES
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2000 FORD Windstar, 4 door, V6. $3,700.

1997 PONTIAC Bonneville, 4 door, V6. $1,995.

2000 DODGE Dakota Sport Ext. Cab 4x4, V8, auto. $4,995.

2002 CHEVY Cavalier LS, 4 door, 4 cyl., auto. $3,995.

2001 OLDS Silhouette Van, V6, 4 door $2,795.

2000 DODGE Stratus, 4 door, V6. $2,995.

2001 CHRYSLER Voyager, V6, 4 door, 3rd row seat. 62K. $4,500.

Antique/Classic
Auto

1987 CORVETTE 36,000 miles, 350 V8, 4/3 tranny, 2 tops, $12,000 firm. 724-825-0854.

Wanted To Buy
Auto

$ 500 BONUS CASH $
On RETAIL SALE
ANY AUTO IN STOCK
NOW thru 10/31/09!
Must Present This Coupon @ Onset
CERTIFIED Pre-OWNED!
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'05 HONDA CIVIC LX #PC547 $11,995 Custom Alloy Wheels, CD, Cruise, Sharp
'06 FORD FREESTYLE SEL #T0009A $14,995 3rd Row Seat, Roof, Leather, CD6/MP3
'05 FORD EXPLORER XLT #P1555 $14,995 3rd Row Seat, CD, Running Boards
'08 FORD FOCUS SES #C0024A Certified $16,995 Microsoft SYNC, Keyless, CD, Spoiler
'05 MERCURY MILAN PREMIER #PC561 Certified $16,995 Leather, Moonroof, Keyless, Heated Seats
'08 FORD ESCAPE XLT 4X4 #P1555 Certified $21,995 Moonroof, Keyless Rem, CD, Tow Pkg
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ASTRO ❖ GRAPH
Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 14, 2009

LIBRA
September 23 through October 23

In the year ahead, little things will add up to be not only more advantageous in the long run but open new doors for you as well. Step by step, you should be able to grow considerably in meaningful ways.

LIBRA (**Sept. 23-Oct. 23**) -- Instinctively, you'll know not to ignore your intuitive perceptions. When you are sensing something good that your logic can't conceive, you'll act on it without any hesitation.

SCORPIO (**Oct. 24-Nov. 22**) -- Something propitious is likely to result from your social encounters, so don't pass up any opportunities for mingling and meeting with new people.

SAGITTARIUS (**Nov. 23-Dec. 21**) -- Don't be afraid to test any bright idea that pops in your head. Something new and refreshing could be at the core of putting you far ahead of your rivals.

CAPRICORN (**Dec. 22-Jan. 19**) -- Treating your experiences philosophically will help you to deal successfully with life and all its unexpected contingencies. It should be a good day.

AQUARIUS (**Jan. 20-Feb. 19**) -- Because you'll do your best and not expect more than that to which you're legitimately entitled, you won't be disappointed by the profit you are able to make. Actually, you'll feel good about it.

PISCES (**Feb. 20-March 20**) -- Since you'll instinctively understand that your industriousness will not go unacknowledged or unrewarded, instead of sidestepping difficult jobs, you'll welcome them with open arms.

ARIES (**March 21-April 19**) -- Because you're extremely industrious, you can expect much of yourself, such as producing far more than what is normally accomplished by the average person. It won't go unacknowledged.

TAURUS (**April 20-May 20**) -- Being a fun person to be around and not taking yourself too seriously makes all those in your vicinity want to try to emulate your behavior.

GEMINI (**May 21-June 20**) -- Artistic and creative projects will be the activities that appeal the most to you. The best of these will bring an abundance of personal feelings of success that you can't get elsewhere.

CANCER (**June 21-July 22**) -- Put your natural skills of salesmanship to the test, because it shouldn't be too hard to walk away with a bigger order than usual, even from some of your toughest customers.

LEO (**July 23-Aug. 22**) -- It'll be your wonderful, optimistic self-assurance that is likely to be at the core of a successful performance with regard to commercial or financial matters. Give it your all.

VIRGO (**Aug. 23-Sept. 22**) -- For many people, their greatest successes are likely to come from collective effort, but, in your case, you're apt to be strongest when operating independently. Go it alone whenever you can.